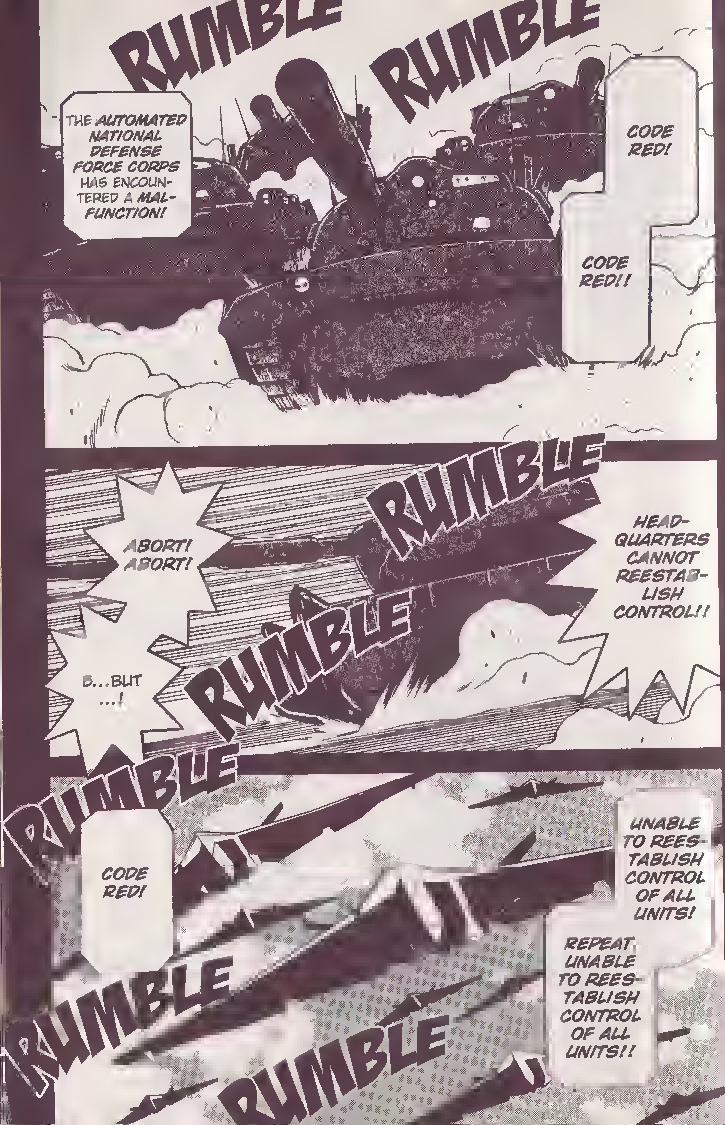
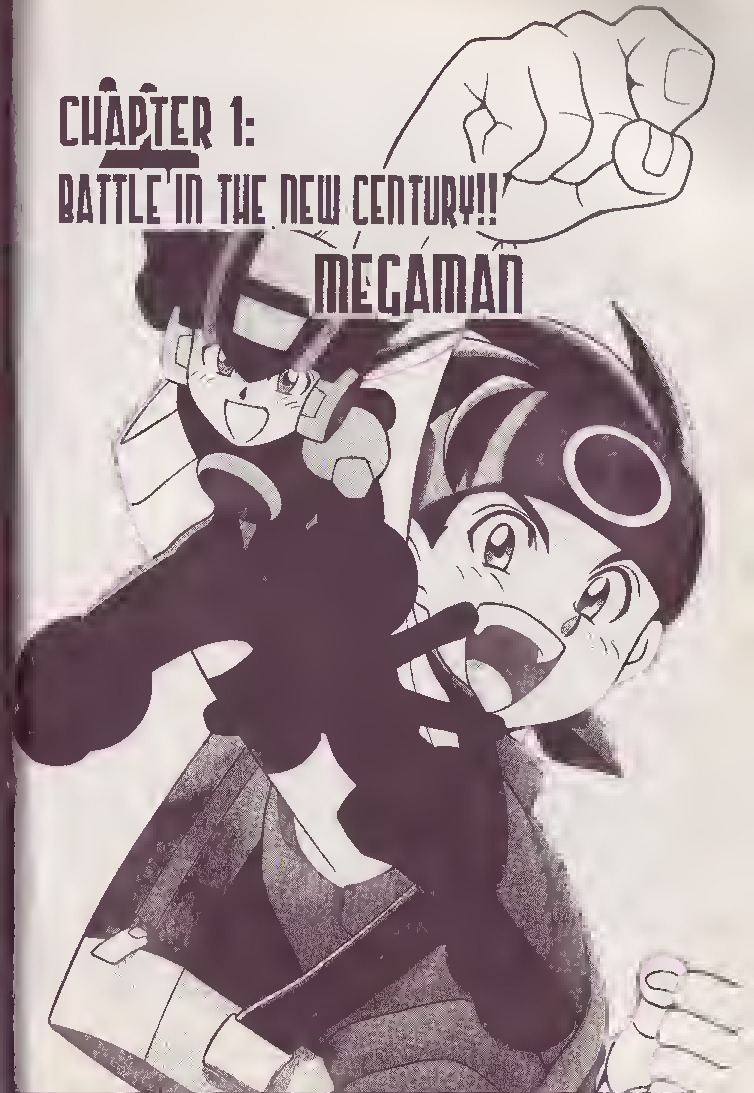
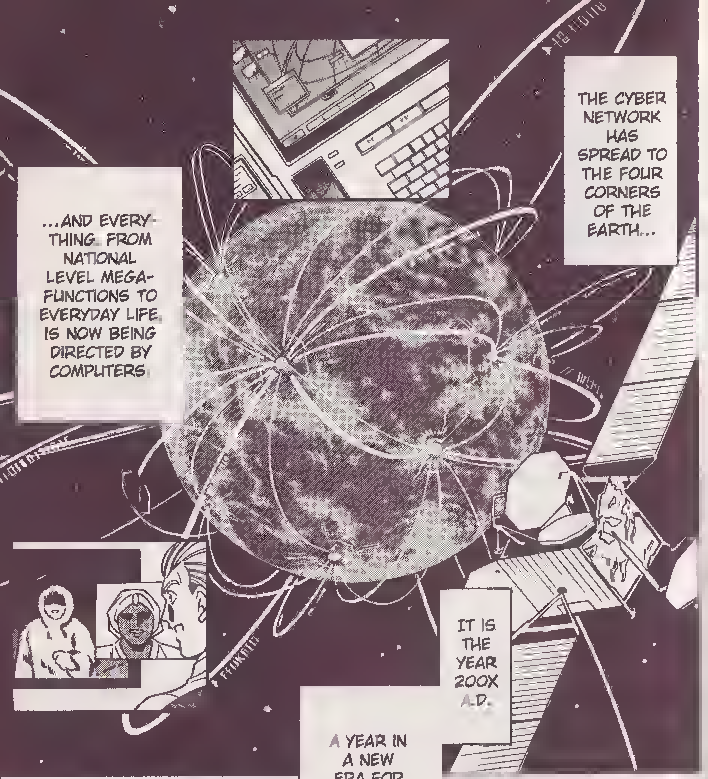


CHAPTER 1:
BATTLE IN THE NEW CENTURY!!

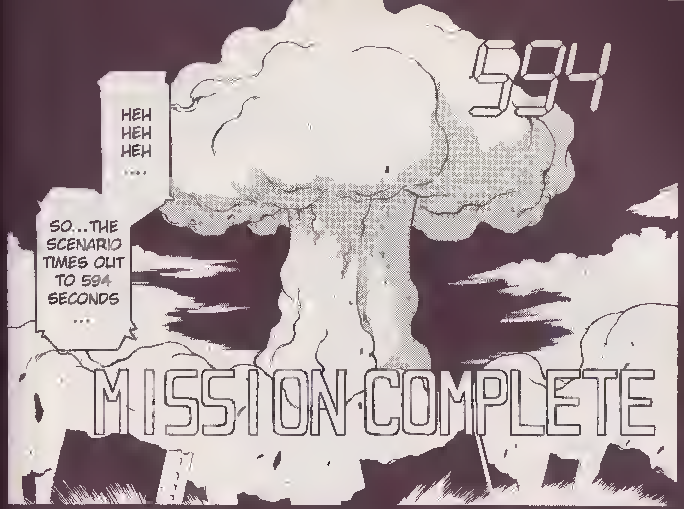
MEGAMAN



KA-WHOOM
CODE...
CODE RED!!
CODE RED!!

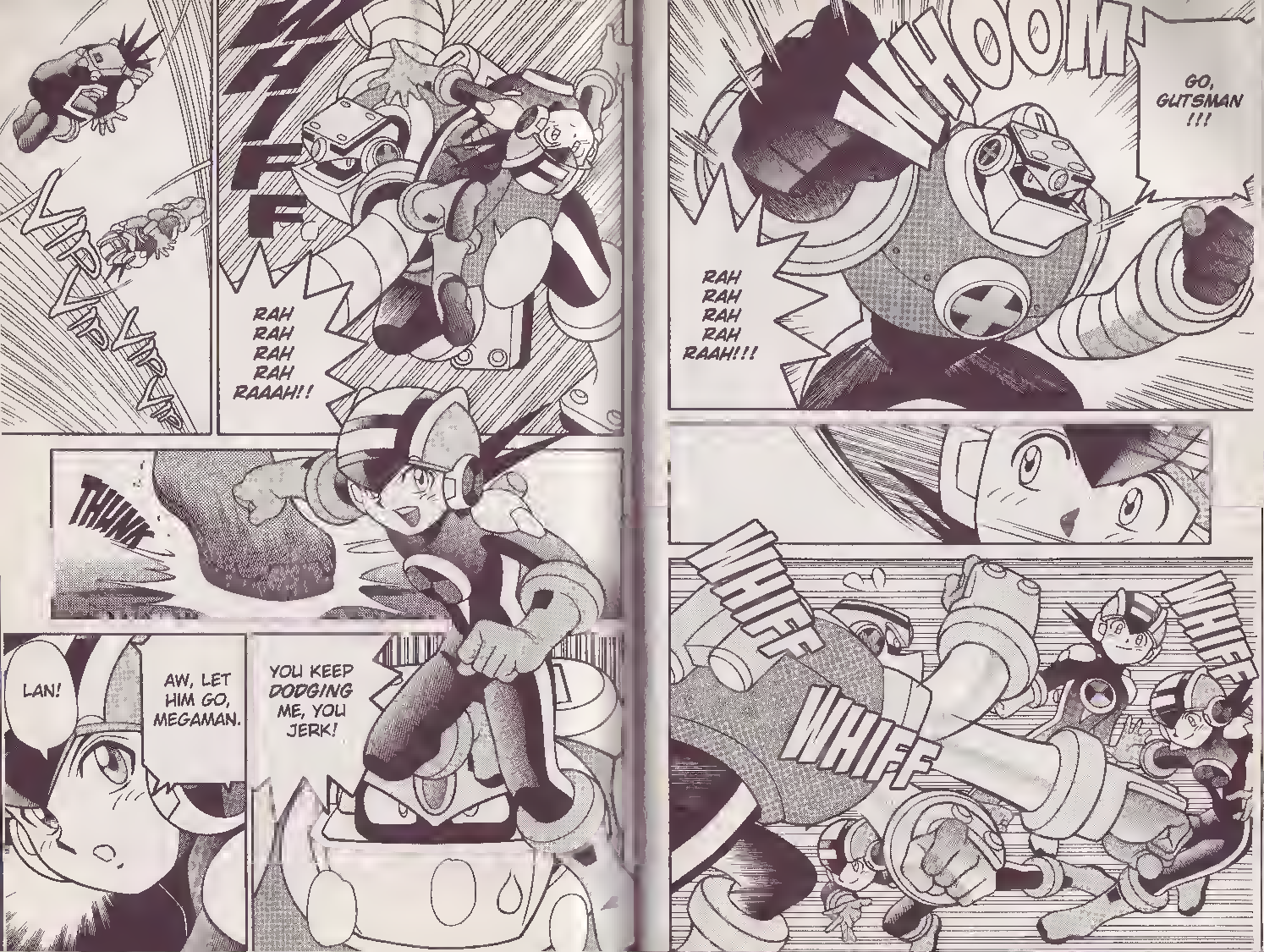

THE CYBER NETWORK HAS SPREAD TO THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE EARTH...
...AND EVERY-THING, FROM NATIONAL LEVEL MEGA-FUNCTIONS TO EVERYDAY LIFE, IS NOW BEING DIRECTED BY COMPUTERS.
IT IS THE YEAR 200X A.D.
A YEAR IN A NEW ERA FOR HUMANITY.

DenTech City,
DenTech Academy


594
HEH HEH HEH ....
SO...THE SCENARIO TIMES OUT TO 594 SECONDS ...
MISSION COMPLETE

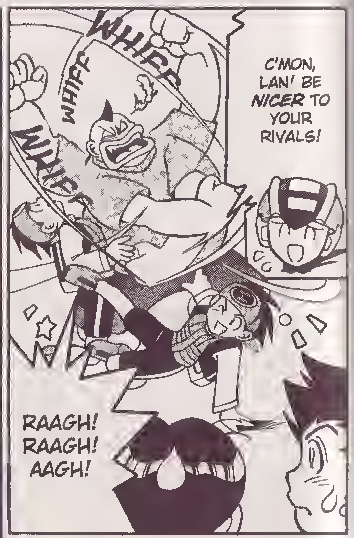
...BUT SOON IT WILL GO LIVE!
THIS IS STILL JUST A SIMULA-TION.

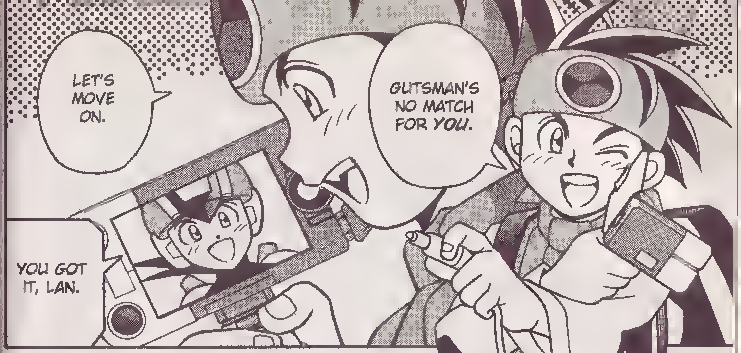
...DELETED !!!
BWA HA HA
AND THIS WORLD WILL BE
HA HA HA HA HA

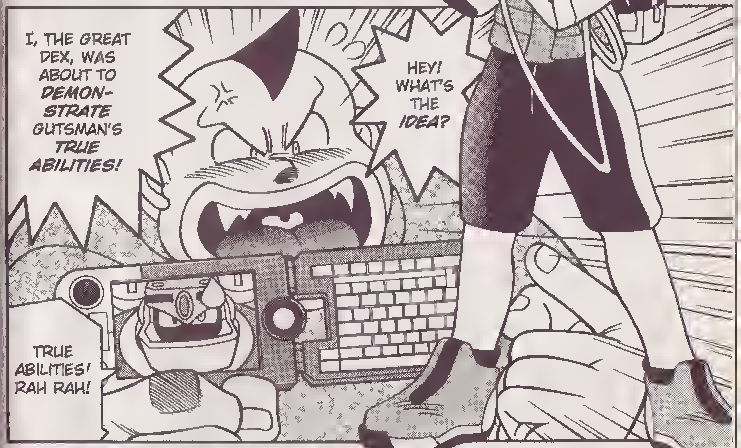

VHOOM
GO, GUTSMAN !!!
RAH RAH RAH RAH RAAH!!!
VHIFF
VHIFF
VHIFF
RAH RAH RAH RAAH!!
VHIP VHIP VHIP
THUNK
LAN!
AW, LET HIM GO, MEGAMAN.
YOU KEEP DODGING ME, YOU JERK!

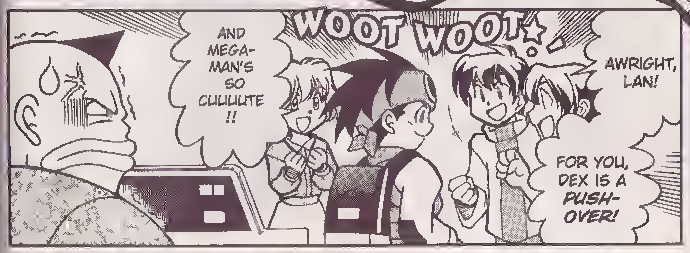
SWAP
IT MUST BE TOUGH ...
...HAVING NETNAVIS AND NETOPS SHARE MORE BRAWN THAN BRAINS!
SWAP
HE WON'T BE SO CUTE WHEN I ...!
RRARG

WHAM
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?!


WHIPP
WHIPP
C'MON, LAN! BE NICER TO YOUR RIVALS!
RAAGH! RAAGH! AAGH!

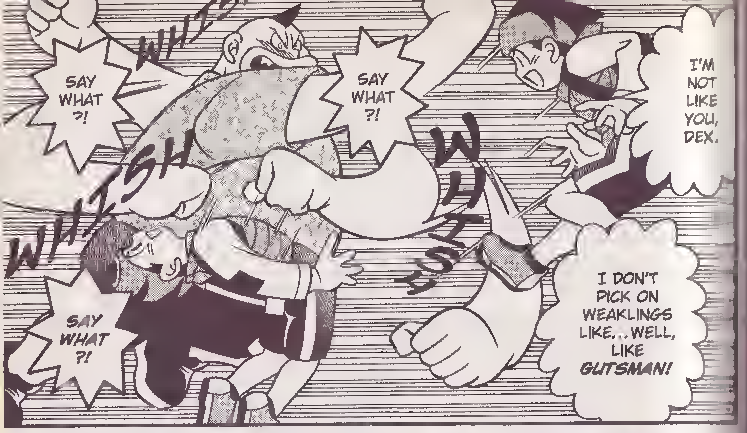

LET'S MOVE ON.
GUTSMAN'S NO MATCH FOR YOU.
YOU GOT IT, LAN.

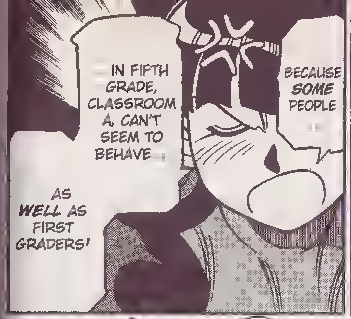

I, THE GREAT DEX, WAS ABOUT TO DEMON-STRATE GUTSMAN'S TRUE ABILITIES!
HEY! WHAT'S THE IDEA?
TRUE ABILITIES! RAH RAH!

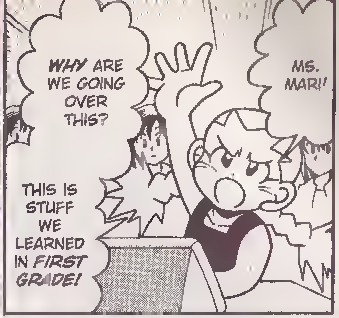

WOOT WOOT
AND MEGA-MAN'S SO CULULUTE !!
AWRIGHT, LAN!
FOR YOU, DEX IS A PUSH-OVER!

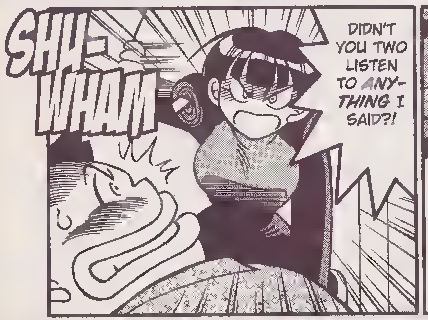
NETNAVIS!
AND WHAT DO WE CALL THE NAVIGATION PROGRAMS INSIDE OUR PETS?
HERE!
HERE!
NOW THEN, WHO CAN GIVE A SIMPLE EXPLANATION OF NETBATTLING?
RIGHT! NETNAVIS ARE AI PROGRAMS THAT
...HELP NETOPS OUT.
SURE
CHK-CHK
HOW ABOUT YOU, MAYLU.
NETBATTLERS MUST HAVE LICENSES FOR THIS, THOUGH...
...AS NETBATTLING WITHOUT A LICENSE IS ILLEGAL.
NETBATTLING IS WHEN NETOPS GET THEIR NETNAVIS TO FIGHT EACH OTHER.

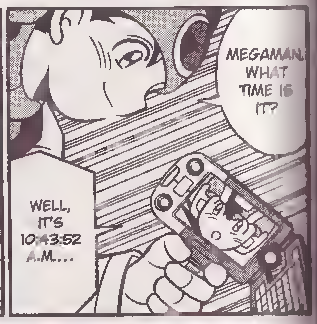
NETBATTLING, EH?!
I TOLD THEM NOT TO, BUT THEY DIDN'T LISTEN TO ME!
MS. MARI! MS. MARI!
YAI, YOU LITTLE TATTLETALE...!
LAN AND DEX WERE NETBATTLING WITHOUT PERMISSION!
NETNAVIS ARE NOT TO BE USED FOR ROUGHHOUSING!!
GLARE
LAN! DEX! HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?!
...AND PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD ARE NETWORKED TO EACH OTHER THROUGH THEM.
EACH OF YOU HAS BEEN GIVEN SOMETHING CALLED A PET.
...WHICH STANDS FOR "PERSONAL TERMINAL."
IT'S SIMILAR TO A WIRELESS PC...


SAY WHAT?!
SAY WHAT?!
WHAT?!
WHAT?!
SAY WHAT?!
I'M NOT LIKE YOU, DEX.
I DON'T PICK ON WEAKLINGS LIKE...WELL, LIKE GUTSMAN!

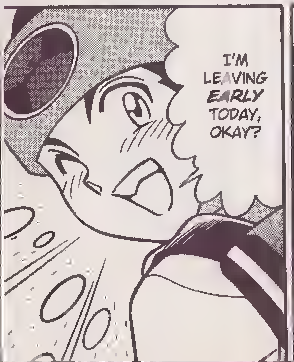

IN FIFTH GRADE, CLASSROOM A CAN'T SEEM TO BEHAVE...
BECAUSE SOME PEOPLE
AS WELL AS FIRST GRADERS!

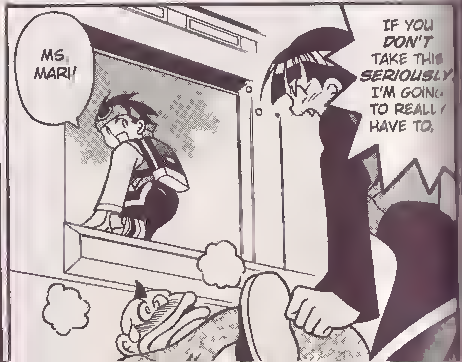

WHY ARE WE GOING OVER THIS?
MS. MARI!
THIS IS STUFF WE LEARNED IN FIRST GRADE!

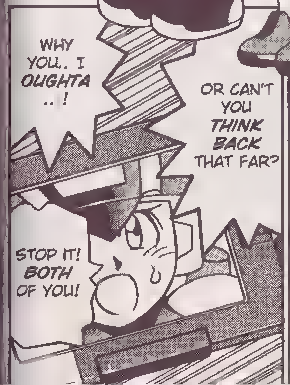

SHH-WHAM
DIDN'T YOU TWO LISTEN TO ANY-THING I SAID?!

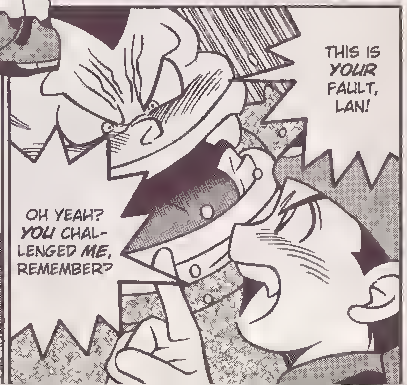

MEGAMAN, WHAT TIME IS IT?
WELL, IT'S 10:43:52 A.M....

...
Ha ha ha ha ha ha
HAW
THAT'S LAN AND DEX ALL RIGHT!


I'M LEAVING EARLY TODAY, OKAY?

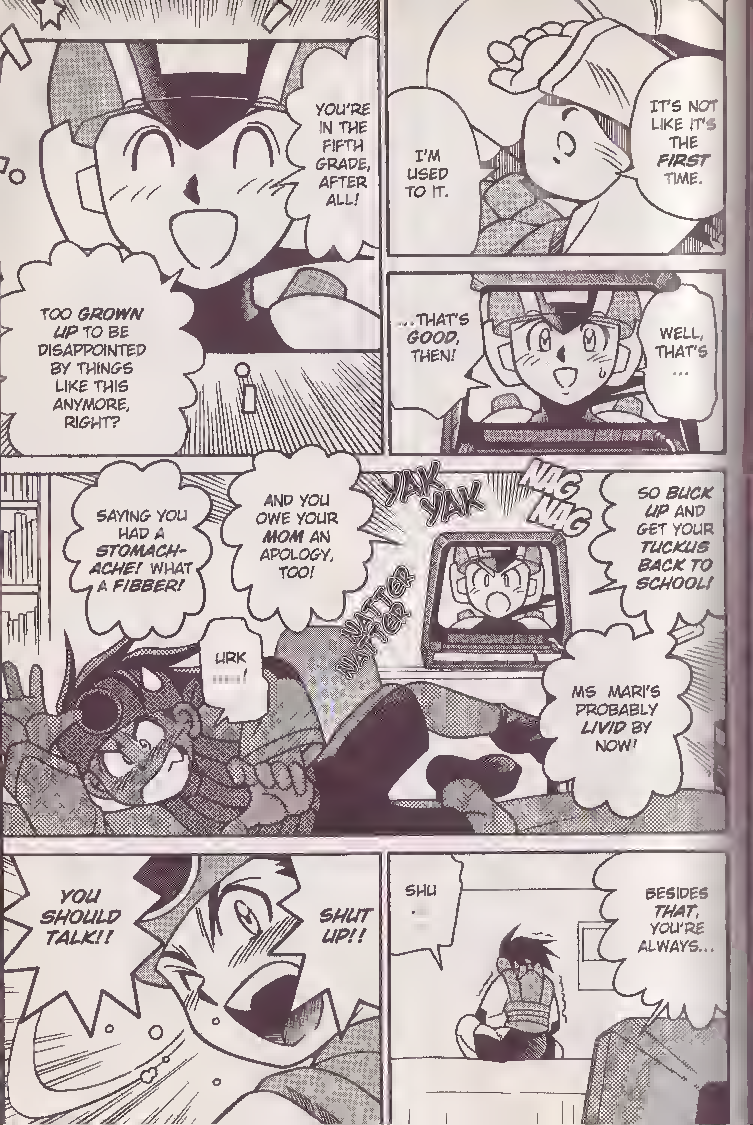

MS. MARI!
IF YOU DON'T TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY I'M GOING TO REALLY HAVE TO.

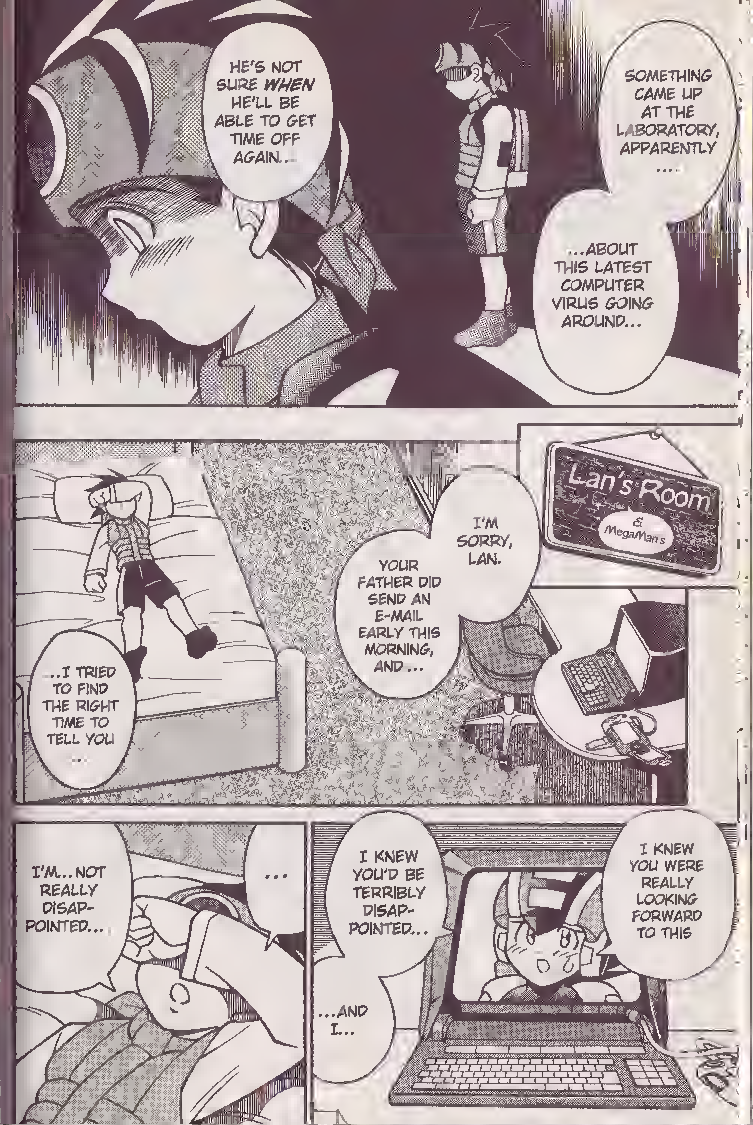

WHY YOU.. I OUGHTA..!
OR CAN'T YOU THINK BACK THAT FAR?
STOP IT! BOTH OF YOU!

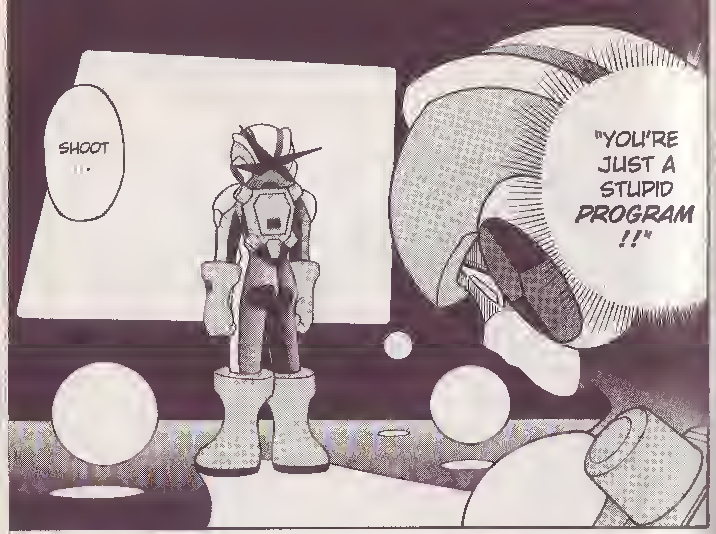

THIS IS YOUR FAULT, LAN!
OH YEAH? YOU CHALLENGED ME, REMEMBER?

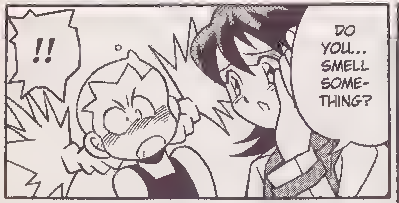
WHAM!!
I'M HOME!!
YOU ARE?
WHAT HAPPENED TO SCHOOL?
HUH? BUT...
YOUR FATHER ..WELL, HE ISN'T GOING TO BE ABLE TO COME HOME AGAIN...
I'M . AFRAID NOT.
HEY, WHERE'S DAD?
UM...I HAD A STOMACH-ACHE AND....
IS HE HOME YET? IS HE?!

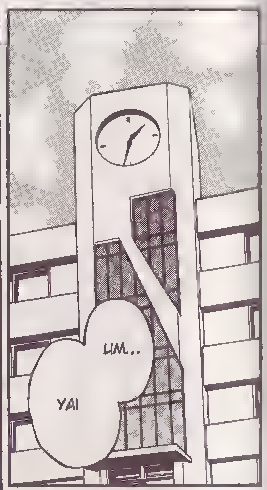
WHOOOSH
I GOT BETTER THINGS TO DO!!
LEAVING EARLY? WHAT ABOUT CLASS?!
SNICK-ER!
HE'S A PUNK! A STUPID PUNK!
YOU LITTLE... LAN!!
.. PLAY THE DELINQUENT I KNOW YOUR FATHER'S COMING HOME FOR THE FIRST TIME IN AGES ..
GO ON, LAN..
OH

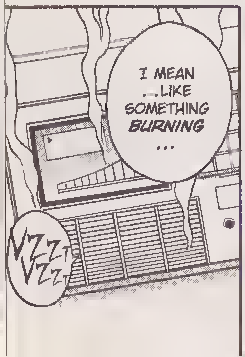

YOU'RE IN THE FIFTH GRADE, AFTER ALL!
TOO GROWN UP TO BE DISAPPOINTED BY THINGS LIKE THIS ANYMORE, RIGHT?
I'M USED TO IT.
IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S THE FIRST TIME.
...THAT'S GOOD, THEN!
WELL, THAT'S ...
SAYING YOU HAD A STOMACH-ACHE! WHAT A FIBBER!
AND YOU OWE YOUR MOM AN APOLOGY, TOO!
YAK YAK
WAG WAG
WATER
SO BUCK UP AND GET YOUR TUCKUS BACK TO SCHOOL!
URK .....
MS. MARI'S PROBABLY LIVID BY NOW!
YOU SHOULD TALK!!
SHUT UP!!
SHU
BESIDES THAT, YOU'RE ALWAYS...

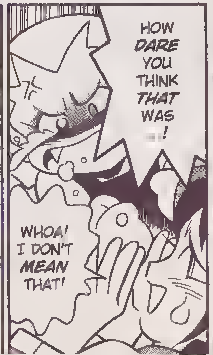

HE'S NOT SURE WHEN HE'LL BE ABLE TO GET TIME OFF AGAIN...
SOMETHING CAME UP AT THE LABORATORY, APPARENTLY ....
...ABOUT THIS LATEST COMPUTER VIRUS GOING AROUND...
Lan's Room & MegaMan's
...I TRIED TO FIND THE RIGHT TIME TO TELL YOU ...
YOUR FATHER DID SEND AN E-MAIL EARLY THIS MORNING, AND ...
I'M SORRY, LAN.
I'M...NOT REALLY DISAP-POINTED...
...
I KNEW YOU'D BE TERRIBLY DISAP-POINTED...
...AND I...
I KNEW YOU WERE REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS


SHOOT
"YOU'RE JUST A STUPID PROGRAM !!"


!!
DO YOU.. SMELL SOME-THING?

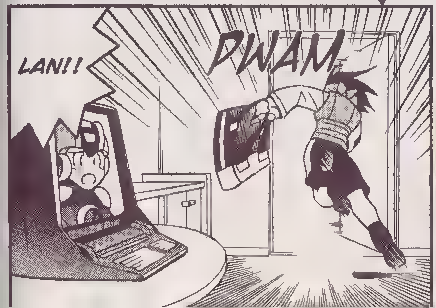

UM..
YAI


I MEAN ...LIKE SOMETHING BURNING ...
VZZ-VZZ


HOW DARE YOU THINK THAT WAS !
WHOA! I DON'T MEAN THAT!

AW, WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?! YOU'RE JUST A STUPID PROGRAM!!

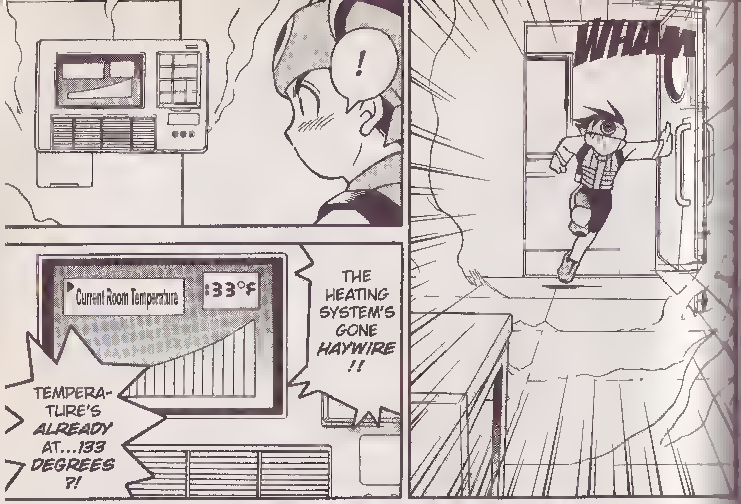
...ABOUT MY DAD'S E-MAIL!
YOU DIDN'T TELL ME...
HUH?! WHO?!.
SO WHO'S THE FIBBER?!

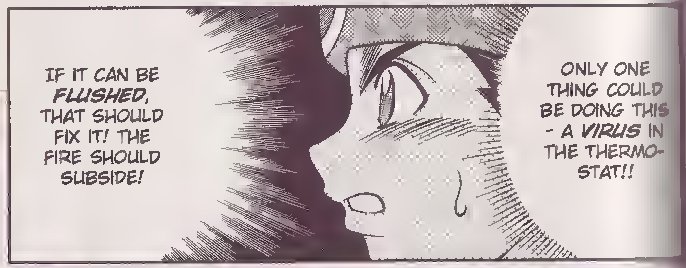

LAN!!
DWAM

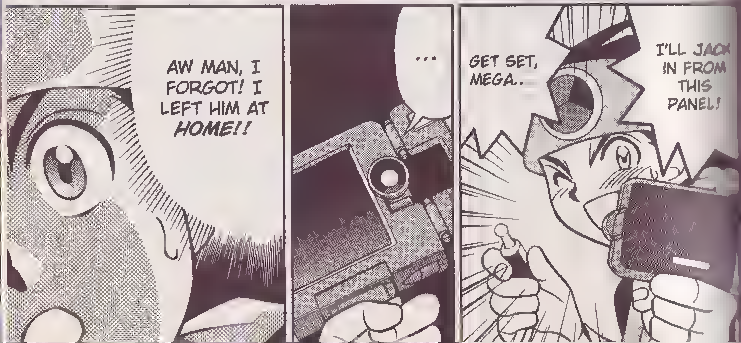
FWICK

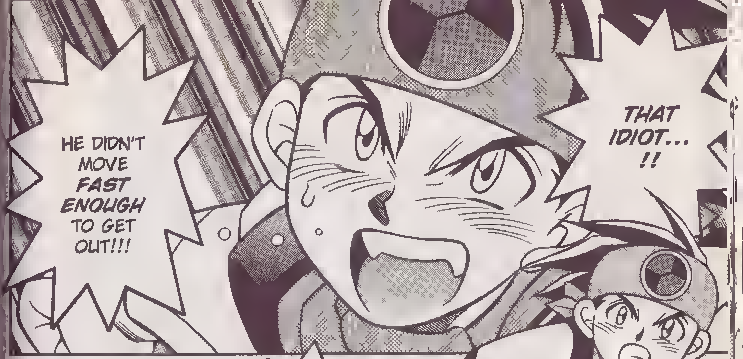
THE SCHOOL'S ON FIRE!!
OMI-GOSH !!
!!
YAAH WAAH WAAA
LAAANN !!
YEAH! I'M FINE! JUST...
MAYLU!
YOU OKAY?
YOU DON'T?! OH NO!!
MS. MARI! I DON'T SEE DEX OR ANY OF THE OTHERS!
I DON'T KNOW! FIRE JUST SHOT FROM THE WALL!
WHAT HAP-PENED ?
AND THE SPRINK-LERS DON'T WORK!

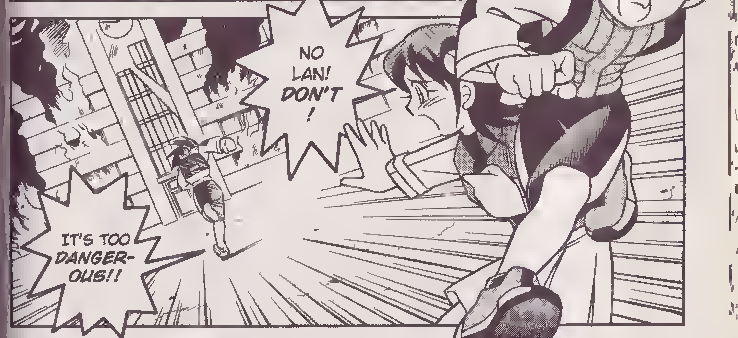
!!
FIRE!! FIRE!!!
HEEEEELP!!

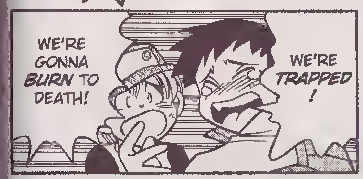

!
WHAM
Current Room Temperature
133°F
THE HEATING SYSTEM'S GONE HAYWIRE!!
TEMPERATURE'S ALREADY AT...133 DEGREES?!

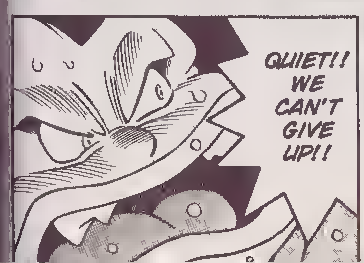

IF IT CAN BE FLUSHED, THAT SHOULD FIX IT! THE FIRE SHOULD SUBSIDE!
ONLY ONE THING COULD BE DOING THIS - A VIRUS IN THE THERMOSTAT!!


AW MAN, I FORGOT! I LEFT HIM AT HOME!!
...
GET SET, MEGA..
I'LL JACK IN FROM THIS PANEL!


HE DIDN'T MOVE FAST ENOUGH TO GET OUT!!!
THAT IDIOT... !!


NO LAN! DON'T!
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!!

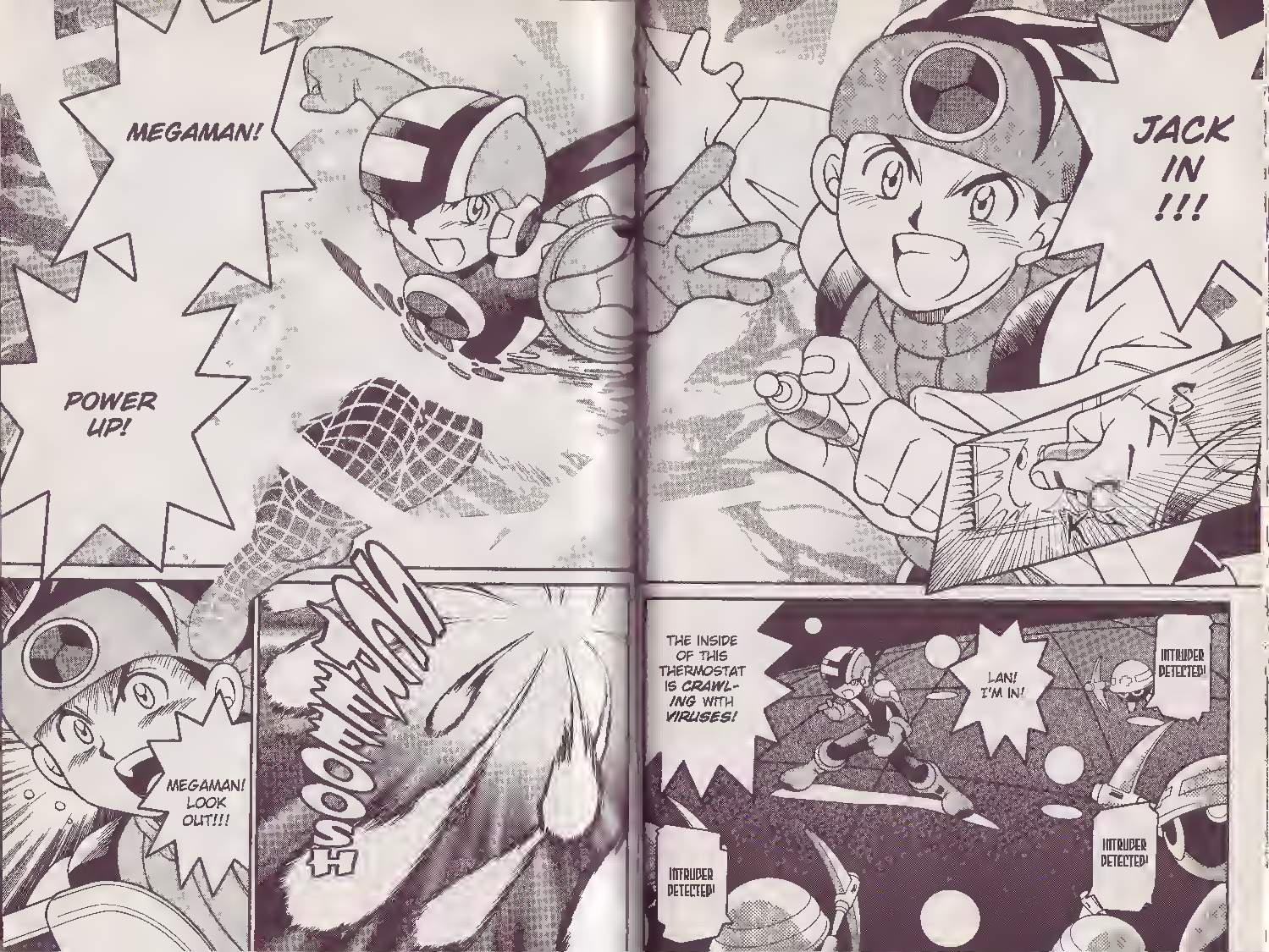

WE'RE GONNA BURN TO DEATH!
WE'RE TRAPPED!


QUIET!! WE CAN'T GIVE UP!!

FIRE'S SPREAD! CAN'T GET OUT HERE!
AW, MAN!!
FSSH

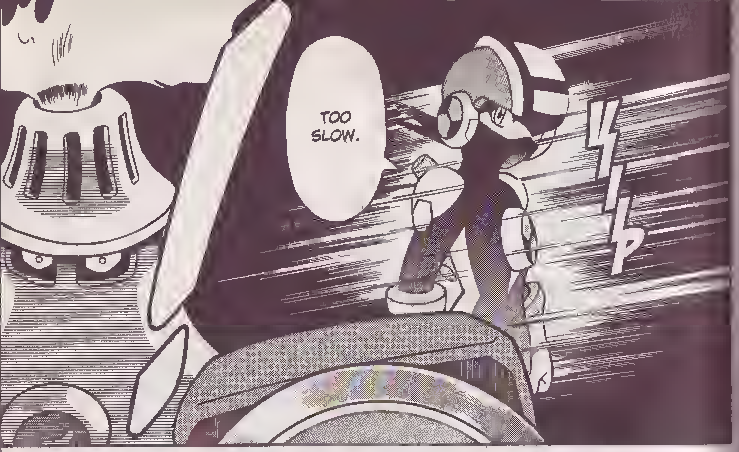
SLAM
BLAST IT!
HOW COULD I HAVE SAID SOMETHING THAT DUMB?!
"YOU'RE JUST A STUPID PROGRAM."
LAN!! WHAT'S GOING ON OVER THERE?!
ALL RIGHT, LET'S DO SOME VIRUS BUSTING!
NONE TOO SOON, LOOKS LIKE!
MEGAMAN! YOU'RE HERE!!
THE COMMUNICATION LINES WERE JAMMED UP...

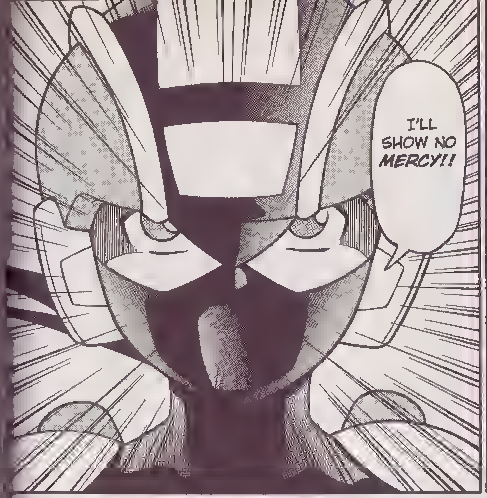
WAIT! THESE COMPUTERS ARE NETWORKED!
I CAN CALL HIM FROM HERE!
NETOP: LAN HIKARI
NETNAVI: MEGAMAN
VOICE I.D. CONFIRMED!
MEGAMAN!
I NEED YOU AT SCHOOL!
MEGAMAN, LISTEN!
HURRY UP! COME ON!
NOTHING! IS HE OFFLINE...?
MEGAMAN!
FWOOSH
MEGAMAN!

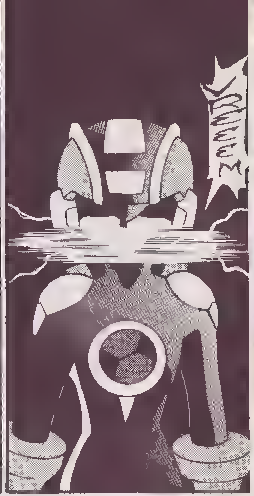

MEGAMAN!
POWER UP!
MEGAMAN! LOOK OUT!!!
SHOOOOOOSH
JACK IN !!!
THE INSIDE OF THIS THERMOSTAT IS CRAWLING WITH VIRUSES!
LAN! I'M IN!
INTRUDER DETECTED!
INTRUDER DETECTED!
INTRUDER DETECTED!

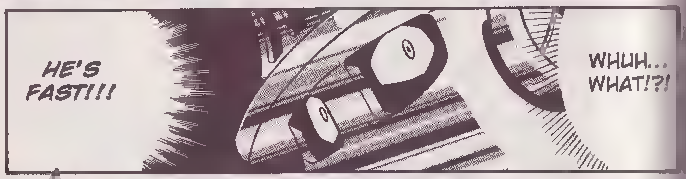
HEH HEH HEH...YOU HERE TO SMOKE ME?
WHY, I ROAST PIP-SQUEAKS LIKE YOU FOR BREAK-FAST.
HEY!! THIS GUY'S NO VIRUS!!
HE'S A NETNAVI !!
BWIK
JUST LIKE THESE! LOOK!
FROOOSH
DEX AND THE OTHERS!! NO!!
IT'S SO HOT WE'RE GONNA DIE!!
'FRAID... YOU'RE RIGHT..!!

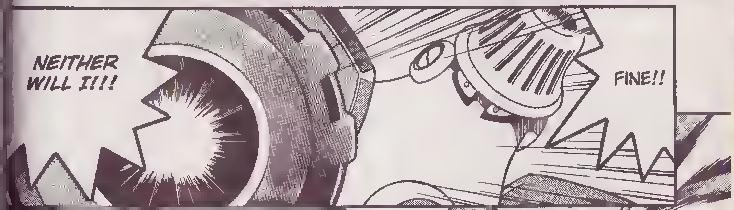
KA-BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
RROOO
WHISH
I AM TORCH-MAN!!
WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE, BRAT?
HOOM.. NICELY DONE....
AARR

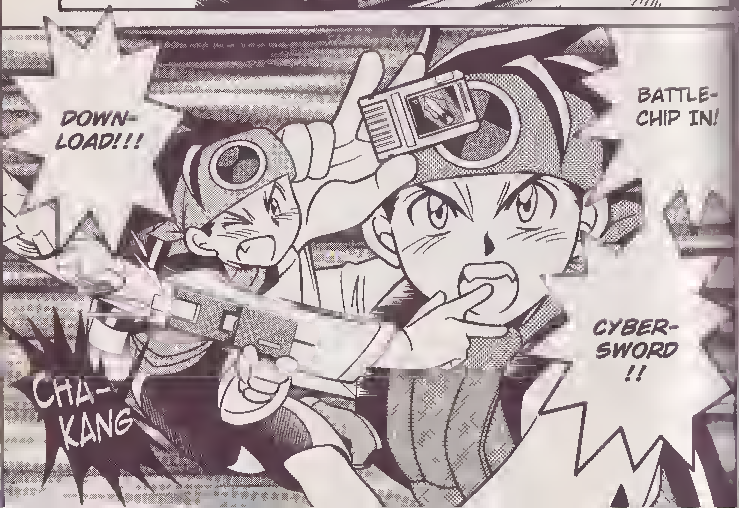

TOO SLOW.
SLIP

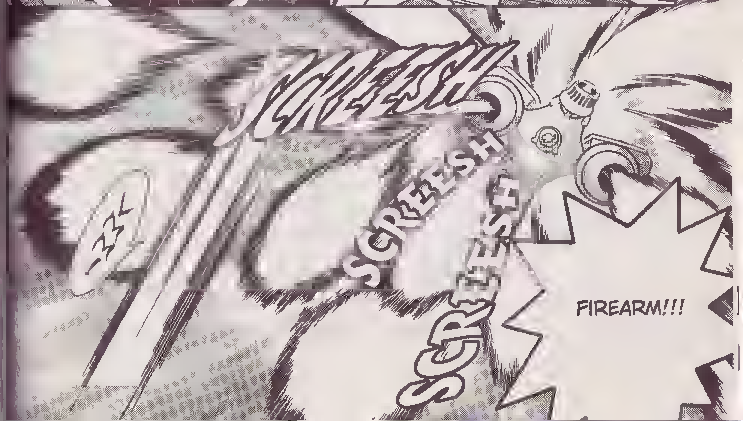

I'LL SHOW NO MERCY!!

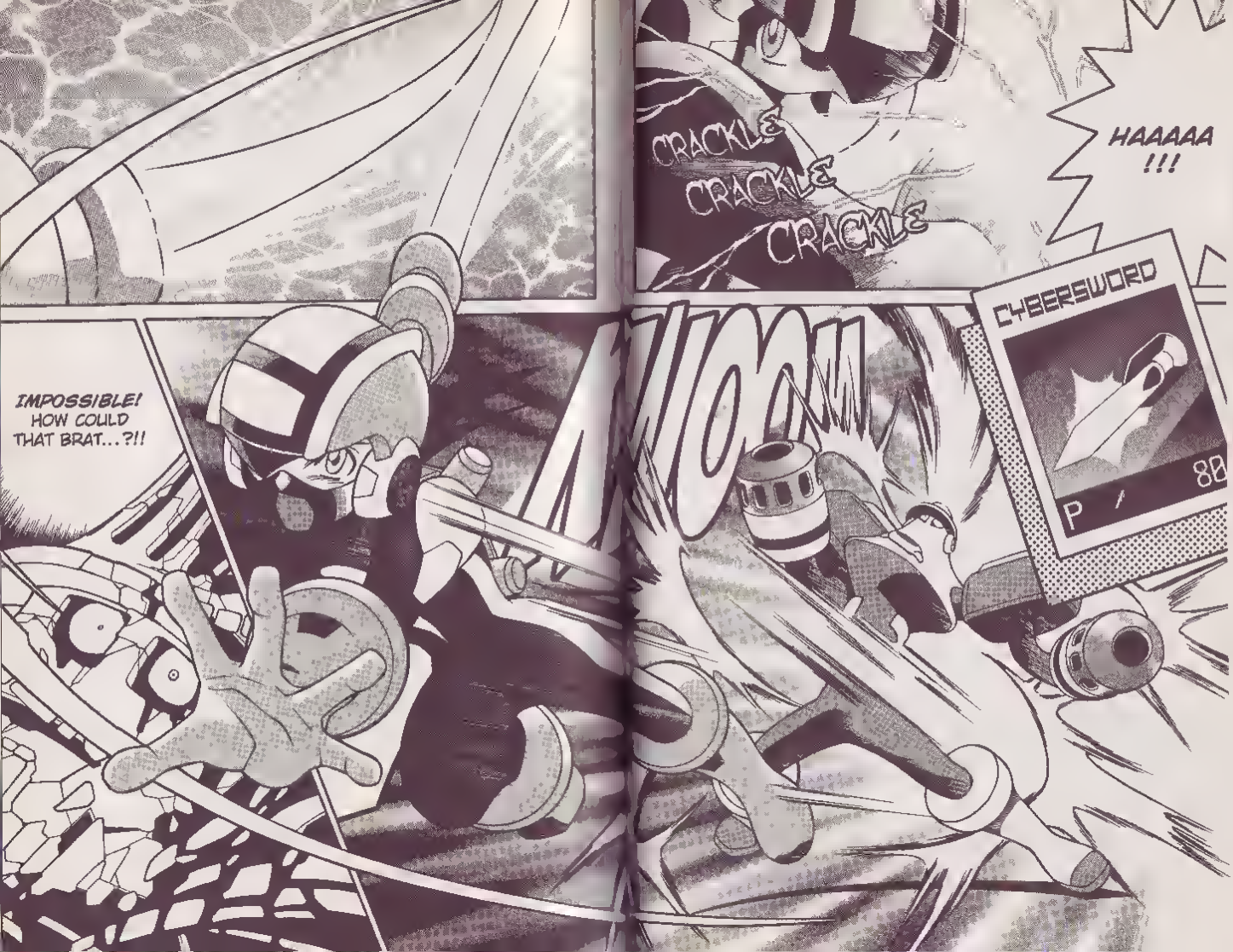

WHOOM

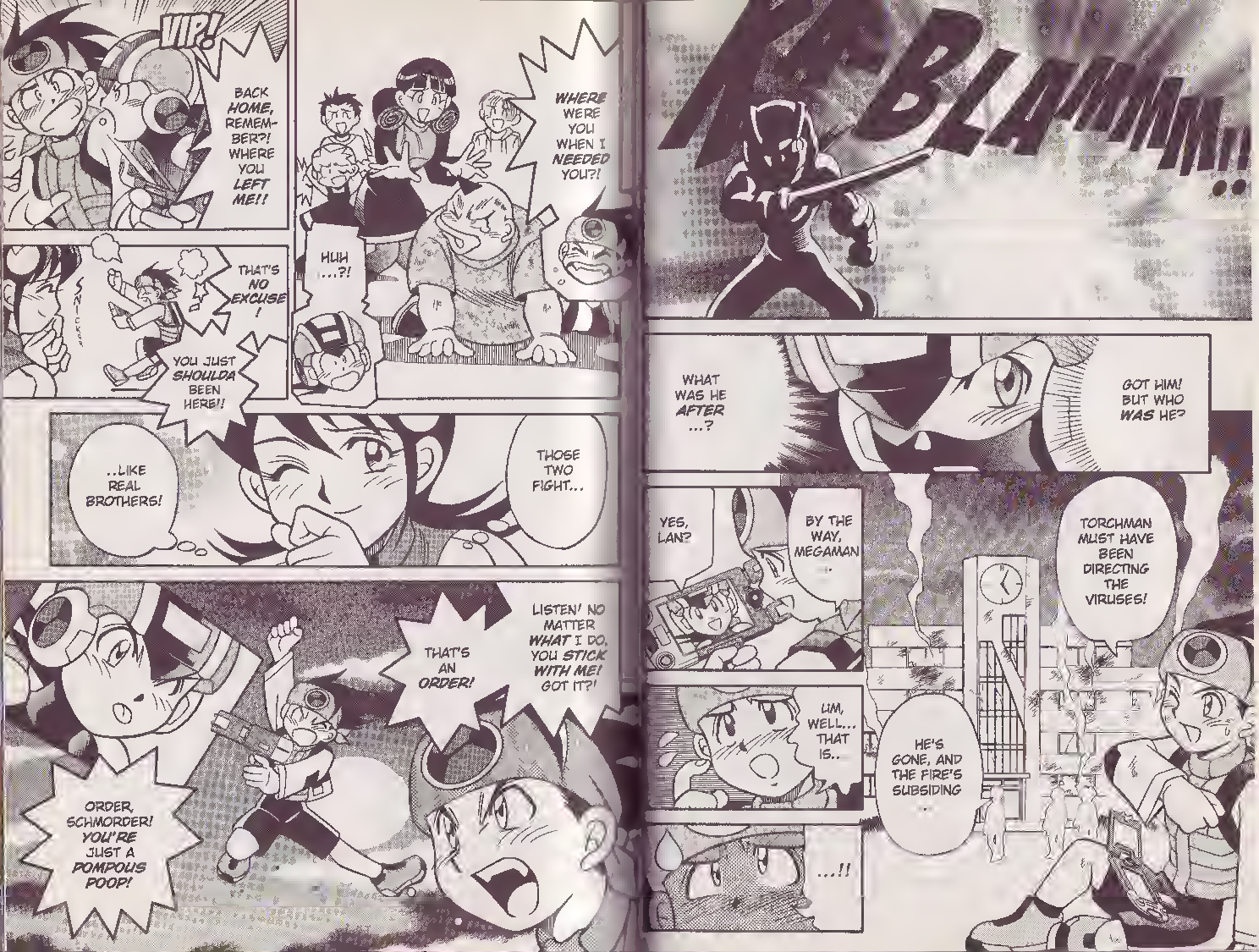

HE'S FAST!!!
WHUH... WHAT!?!

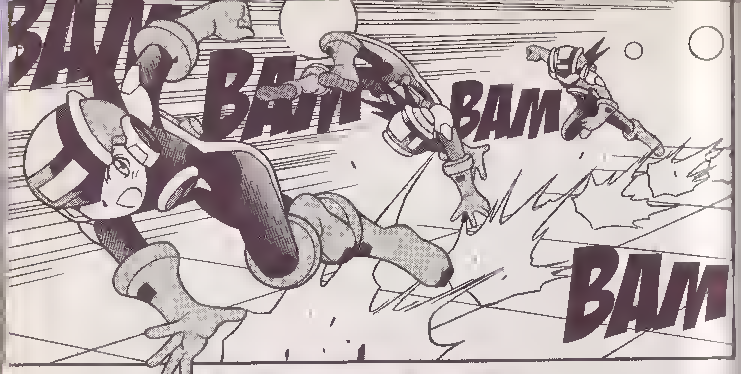

NEITHER WILL I!!!
FINE!!

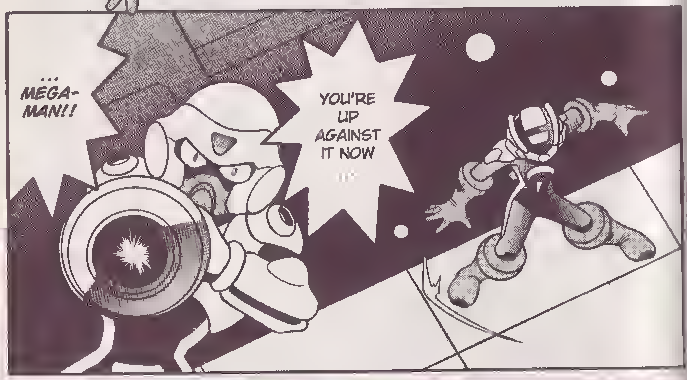

DOWN-LOAD!!!
BATTLE-CHIP IN!
CYBER-SWORD !!
CHA-KANG

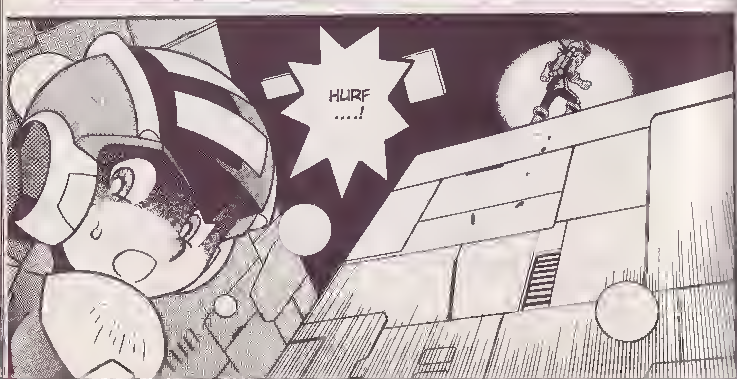

SCHEESH
SCHEESH
SCHEESH
FIREARM!!!


CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
HAAAAA
!!!
CYBERSWORD
P
IMPOSSIBLE!
HOW COULD
THAT BRAT...?!!


VIP!
BACK HOME, REMEMBER?! WHERE YOU LEFT ME!!
WHERE WERE YOU WHEN I NEEDED YOU?!
HUH ...?!
THAT'S NO EXCUSE!
YOU JUST SHOULDA BEEN HERE!!
...LIKE REAL BROTHERS!
THOSE TWO FIGHT...
LISTEN! NO MATTER WHAT I DO, YOU STICK WITH ME! GOT IT?!
THAT'S AN ORDER!
ORDER, SCHMORDER! YOU'RE JUST A POMPOUS POOP!
BLAMMM!!
WHAT WAS HE AFTER ...?
GOT HIM! BUT WHO WAS HE?
YES, LAN?
BY THE WAY, MEGAMAN
TORCHMAN MUST HAVE BEEN DIRECTING THE VIRUSES!
UM, WELL... THAT IS..
HE'S GONE, AND THE FIRE'S SUBSIDING
...!!

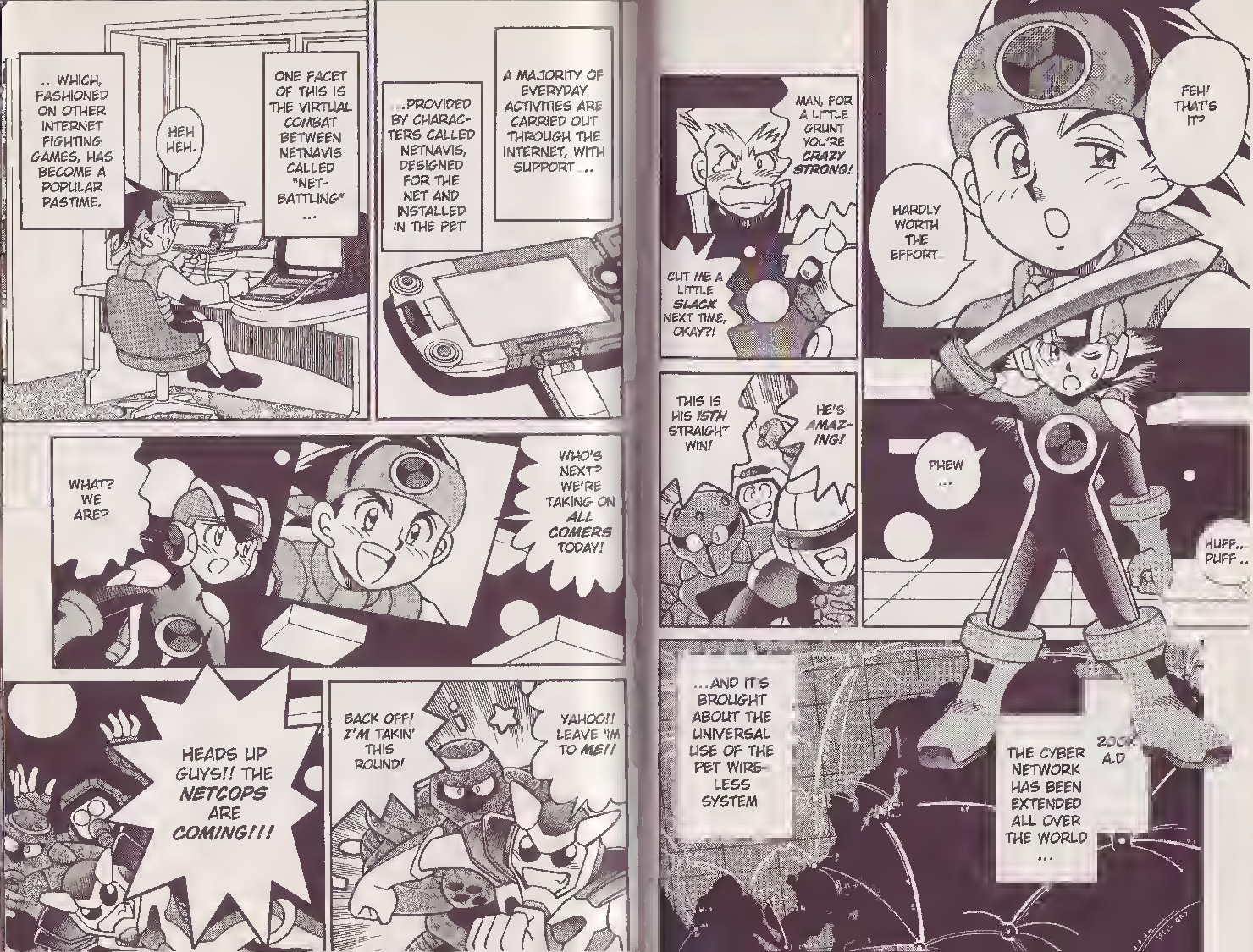


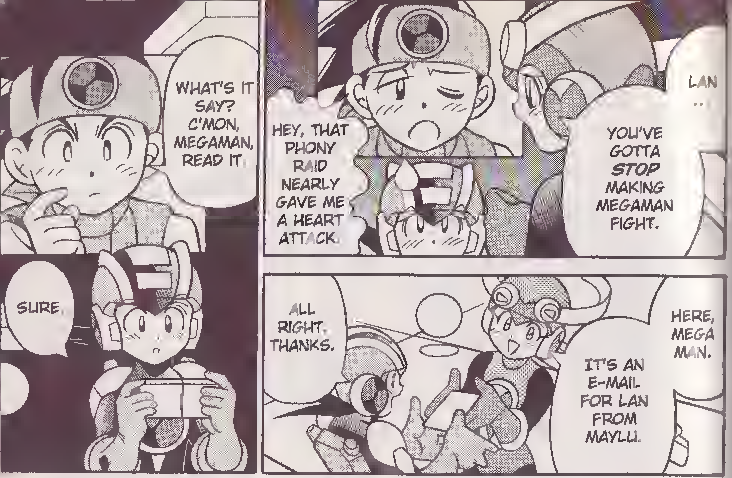


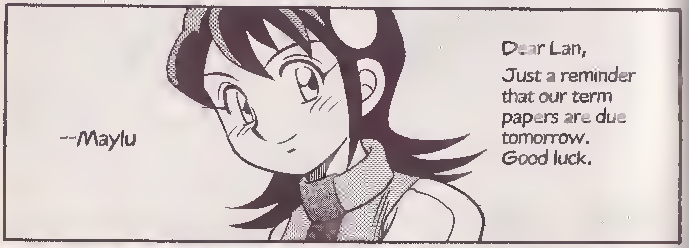


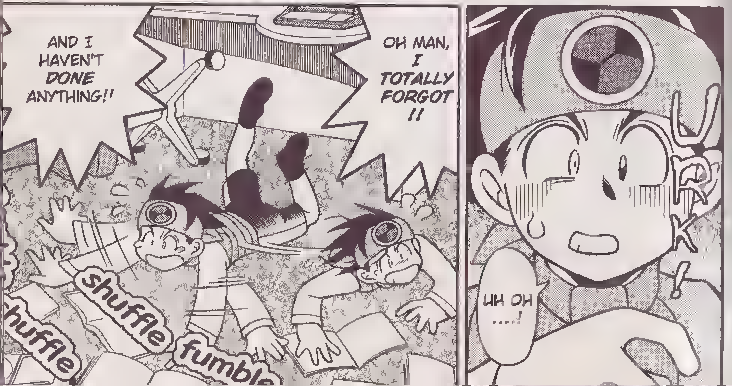
CHAPTER 2: TARGET MEGAMAN!!

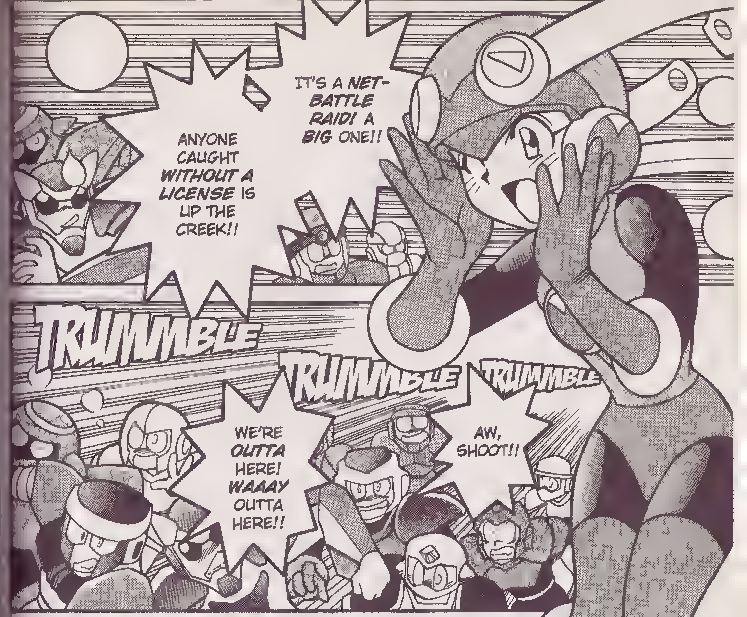
FSJKD
WUH.. GLUFF ?!
AREASTEAL, BATTLE-CHIP IN!
NIDESWORD, BATTLE-CHIP IN!
BAM
BAM
IT'S OVER!!
VICTORY IS MINE!!!
YAAHH-HHHH!!!
KA-BLOOM
I YIELD ...
I...
SHIP!
FLASH
!!
DOWN-LOAD!!

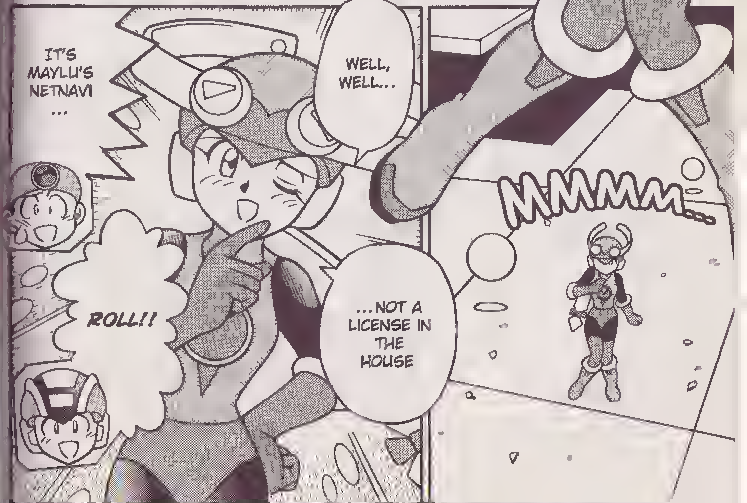

... WHICH, FASHIONED ON OTHER INTERNET FIGHTING GAMES, HAS BECOME A POPULAR PASTIME.
HEH HEH.
ONE FACET OF THIS IS THE VIRTUAL COMBAT BETWEEN NETNAVIS CALLED "NET-BATTLING" ...
...PROVIDED BY CHARACTERS CALLED NETNAVIS, DESIGNED FOR THE NET AND INSTALLED IN THE PET
A MAJORITY OF EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES ARE CARRIED OUT THROUGH THE INTERNET, WITH SUPPORT ...
WHAT? WE ARE?
WHO'S NEXT? WE'RE TAKING ON ALL COMERS TODAY!
HEADS UP GUYS!! THE NETCOPS ARE COMING!!!
BACK OFF! I'M TAKIN' THIS ROUND!
YAHOO!! LEAVE 'IM TO ME!!
MAN, FOR A LITTLE GRUNT YOU'RE CRAZY STRONG!
CUT ME A LITTLE SLACK NEXT TIME, OKAY?!
THIS IS HIS 15TH STRAIGHT WIN!
HE'S AMAZ-ING!
FEH! THAT'S IT?
HARDLY WORTH THE EFFORT...
PHEW ...
HUFF.. PUFF..
...AND IT'S BROUGHT ABOUT THE UNIVERSAL USE OF THE PET WIRE-LESS SYSTEM
THE CYBER NETWORK HAS BEEN EXTENDED ALL OVER THE WORLD ...
2006 A.D


WHAT'S IT SAY? C'MON, MEGAMAN, READ IT.
SURE.
HEY, THAT PHONY RAID NEARLY GAVE ME A HEART ATTACK.
LAN ...
YOU'VE GOTTA STOP MAKING MEGAMAN FIGHT.
ALL RIGHT, THANKS.
HERE, MEGA MAN.
IT'S AN E-MAIL FOR LAN FROM MAYLU.


--Maylu
Dear Lan,
Just a reminder that our term papers are due tomorrow.
Good luck.


AND I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING!!
OH MAN, I TOTALLY FORGOT !!
shuffle
fumble
UH OH ....!


ANYONE CAUGHT WITHOUT A LICENSE IS UP THE CREEK!!
IT'S A NET-BATTLE RAID! A BIG ONE!!
TRUMMBLE
TRUMMBLE
TRUMMBLE
WE'RE OUTTA HERE! WAAAY OUTTA HERE!!
AW, SHOOT!!

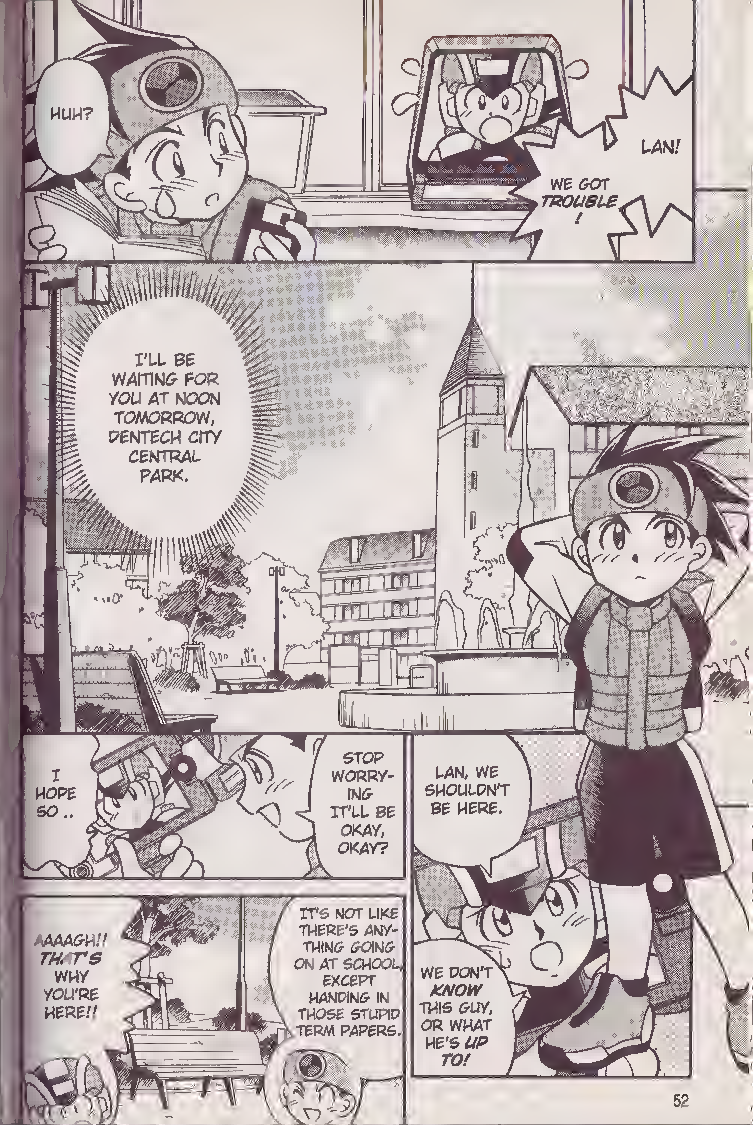

IT'S MAYLU'S NETNAVI ...
WELL, WELL...
ROLL!!
...NOT A LICENSE IN THE HOUSE
MMMM...

IN OTHER WORDS...
...YOU'RE A RESTORATION FROM BACKUP DATA
YES. THE "PREVIOUS ME" HAS BEEN DELETED.
YOU CAN CALL THE "CURRENT ME" ...TORCHMAN II.
EEEEY-AAAAH!!!!
MY, SUCH HOSTILITY! AND TO THINK WE'VE ONLY JUST MET.
JUST MET?
ROLL !!!
YIEEEE
AAAH!! MEGA-MAN!! HELP!!!

WHAT'S THIS? NET-NAVIS FLIRTING WITH EACH OTHER...?
THUMP
WHO'S THAT?
!
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, MEGAMAN!
SIGH... HE'S ALWAYS DOING THIS..
YEAH, BUT...
HUH?! TORCHMAN !!!
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU, MEGAMAN.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?!

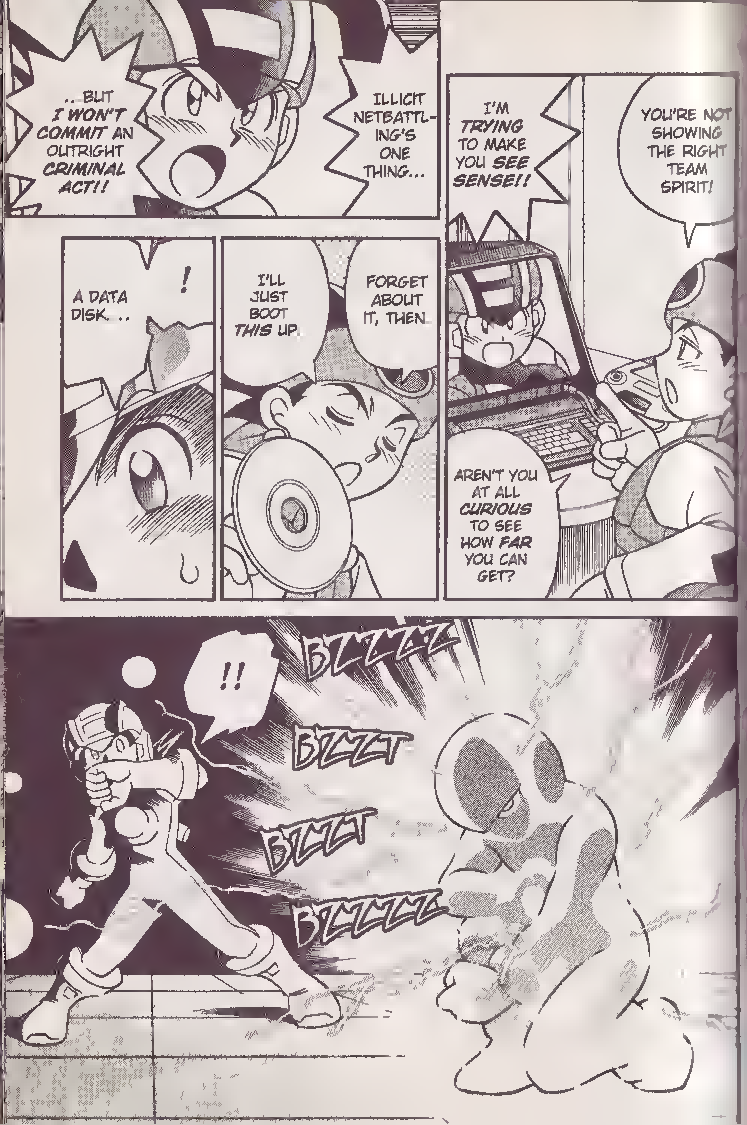
GOTTA WATCH IT, MISSY...
THUMP!
HANG ON, ROLL!
THIS AREA'S FILTHY WITH 'EM.
THAT'S A JUNK VIRUS...
...SPREAD BY SOME THIRD-RATE HACKER.
I'M HERE TO DELIVER A MESSAGE.
I'M NOT HERE TO FIGHT
I DON'T GET IT...
TH... THANK YOU..
WHAT ?!
MY NETOP, MR. MATCH ...
...SAYS HE'D LIKE A WORD WITH YOUR NETOP.
DON'T MOVE !!
SPEEDSTER
!!
BRAM

ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF. I'M TORCHMAN'S NETOP...
...MR. MATCH.
AS THERE'S NO ONE ELSE HERE, YOU MUST BE MEGAMAN'S NETOP.
BOOM
!!
HUH ...?
HEY, HEY. NO NEED TO BE SO JUMPY.
I'VE GOT A LOT OF RESPECT FOR YOU.
JUST ..
...TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT!
YOU CAN CALL ME MR. MATCH.

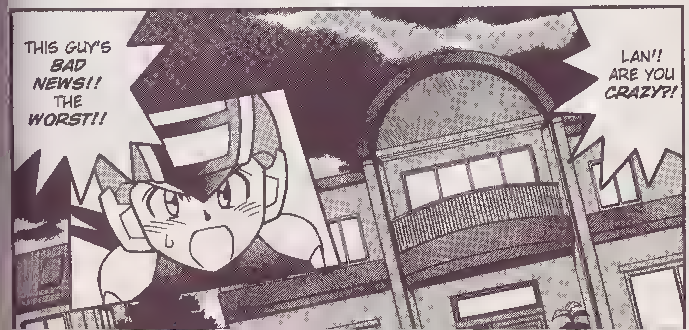

HUH?
LAN!
WE GOT TROUBLE!
I'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU AT NOON TOMORROW, DENTECH CITY CENTRAL PARK.
I HOPE SO ..
STOP WORRYING IT'LL BE OKAY, OKAY?
LAN, WE SHOULDN'T BE HERE.
AAAAGH!! THAT'S WHY YOU'RE HERE!!
IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S ANYTHING GOING ON AT SCHOOL, EXCEPT HANDING IN THOSE STUPID TERM PAPERS.
WE DON'T KNOW THIS GUY, OR WHAT HE'S UP TO!

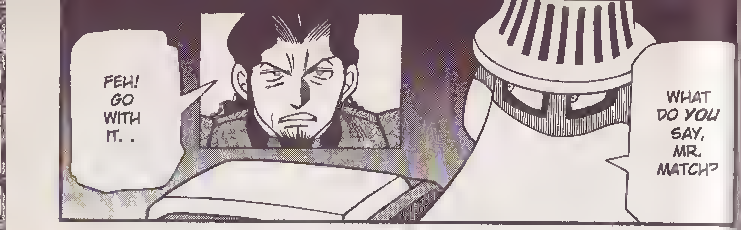
JUST BACK OFF!!
YOU NEARLY BURNED DOWN A SCHOOL LAST TIME!
YOU...
...
THE BEST YOU CAN DO RIGHT NOW IS CHALLENGE AMATEURS IN SECRET, RIGHT?
THAT'S GOTTA BE FRUSTRATING.
I MEAN, WE'RE NOT OUT TO PUT REAL PEOPLE IN DANGER.
HEH HEH, THAT WAS A BIT EXTREME.
THEY'LL BE FORMIDABLE. THE THRILLS YOU GET WILL BE DIFFERENT, AND FAR MORE INTENSE, THAN ANY YOU'VE HAD BEFORE.
OUR ADVERSARIES WILL ARISE FROM A SECURITY PROGRAM... IN SHORT, AUTOMATED COPS.
THE PLAN IS TO INSTILL PANIC IN THE KNOW-NOTHINGS WHO RANK PEOPLE SOLELY BY GRADES AND SCHOOL RECORDS!
FOR INSTANCE, OUR NEXT TARGET IS THE BOARD OF EDUCATION DATABASE.
WE WON'T BE ANY PART OF...!!
GO UP AGAINST AUTOMATED COPS...

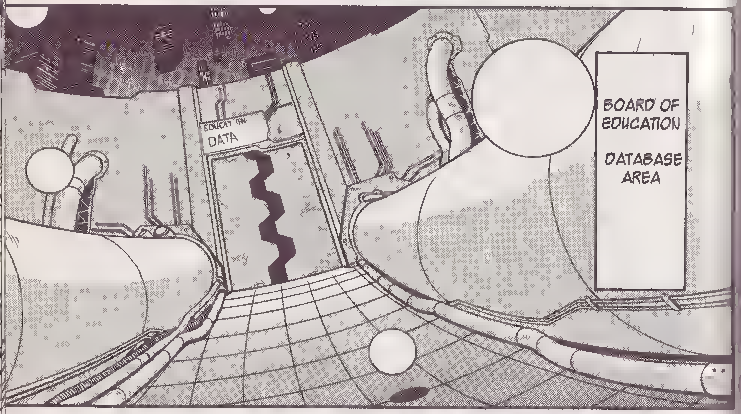
...HIS NETOP IS A CERTIFIABLE GENIUS.
AFTER FIGHTING YOUR NETNAVI, MEGAMAN...
...I WAS LEFT IN NO DOUBT THAT...
BUT IT MUST BE...
...AND POSSESSED OF THE MOST ASTONISHING NETOP TECHNIQUES!
...TOTALLY CUSTOMIZED AND OPTIMIZED...
I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH AN INGENIOUS NETNAVI...
...DISAPPOINTING...THAT ADULTS HAVE BANNED KIDS FROM NETBATTLING.
YEAH, AND I'M YOUR AUNT ZELDA!
HEAR THAT? I'M A GENIUS!
NO BANS, NO RESTRICTIONS JUST UNBRIDLED MAYHEM!!
IF YOU DO, YOU'LL BE FREE TO NETBATTLE TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT.
SO...
...HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE ONE OF US?

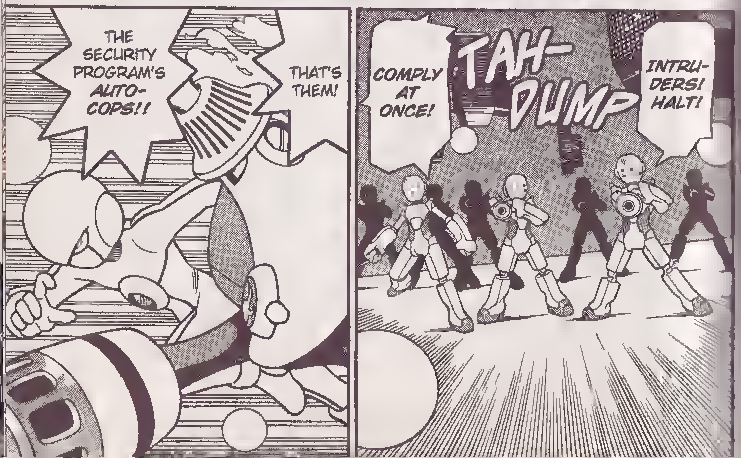

...BUT I WON'T COMMIT AN OUTRIGHT CRIMINAL ACT!!
ILLICIT NETBATTLING'S ONE THING...
A DATA DISK...
!
I'LL JUST BOOT THIS UP.
FORGET ABOUT IT, THEN.
I'M TRYING TO MAKE YOU SEE SENSE!!
YOU'RE NOT SHOWING THE RIGHT TEAM SPIRIT!
AREN'T YOU AT ALL CURIOUS TO SEE HOW FAR YOU CAN GET?
!!
BLLLZZ
BLZZT
BLZZT
BLZZZZ

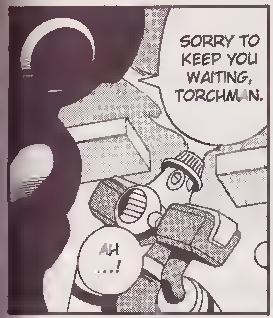
OKAY, MR. MATCH, I'M IN!!
I'VE BEEN ACHING TO GET IN ON THIS KIND OF ACTION!!
SURE SOUNDS LIKE FUN.
AND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION IS THE TARGET...I LIKE THAT.
LAN?! YOU CAN'T!

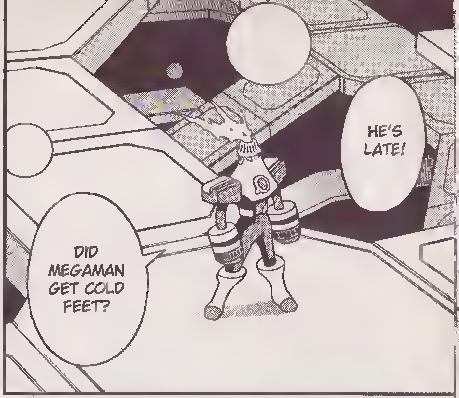

THIS GUY'S BAD NEWS!! THE WORST!!
LAN!! ARE YOU CRAZY?!


FEH! GO WITH IT. .
WHAT DO YOU SAY, MR. MATCH?

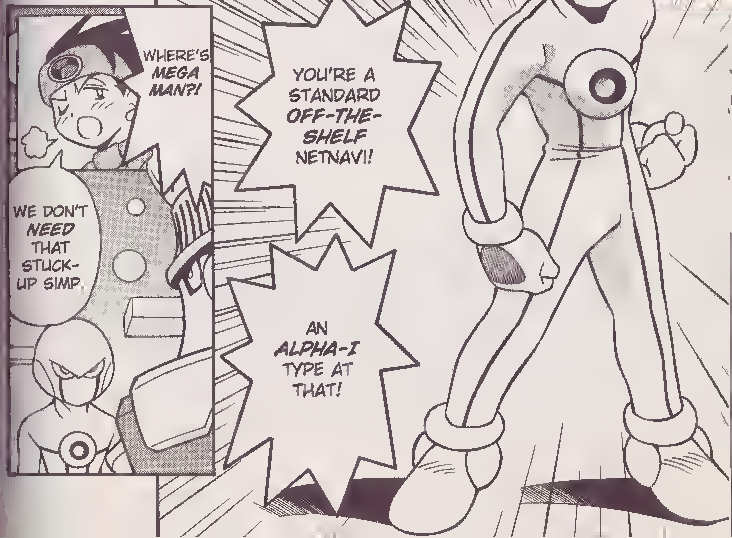

BOARD OF EDUCATION
DATABASE AREA
ENTRY IN DATA

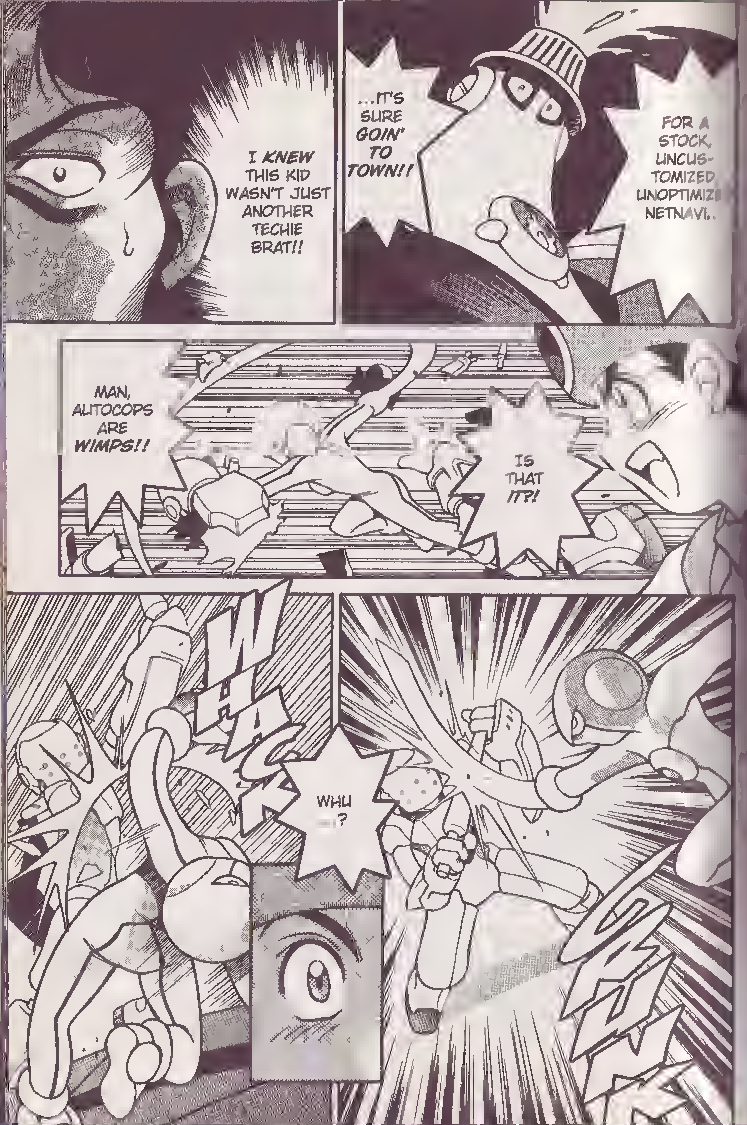

THE SECURITY PROGRAM'S AUTO-COPS!!
THAT'S THEM!
COMPLY AT ONCE!
TAH-DUMP
INTRU-DERS! HALT!


SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING, TORCHMAN.
AH ...!

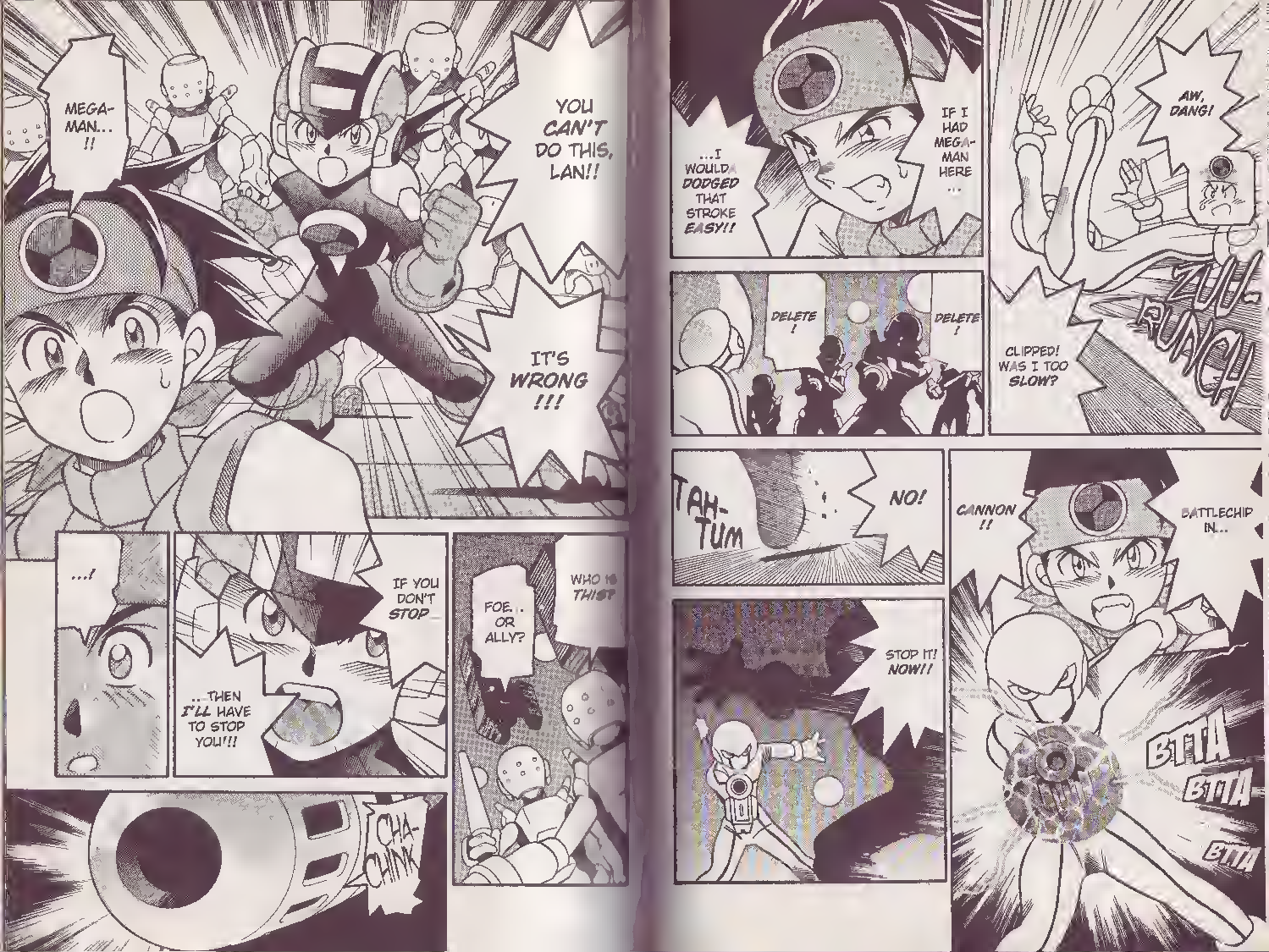

HE'S LATE!
DID MEGAMAN GET COLD FEET?

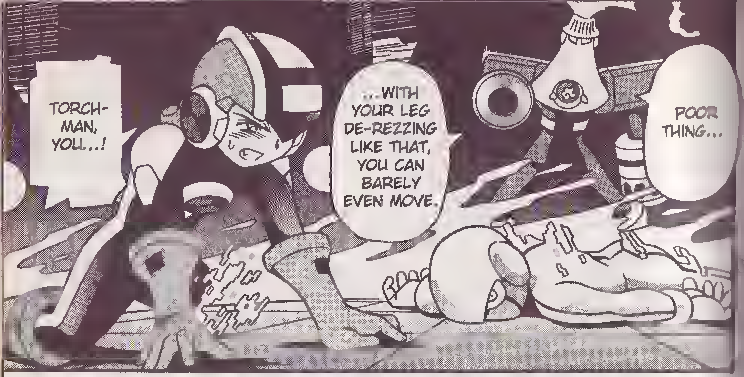
HEY...
WHAT THE BLAZES IS THIS?!

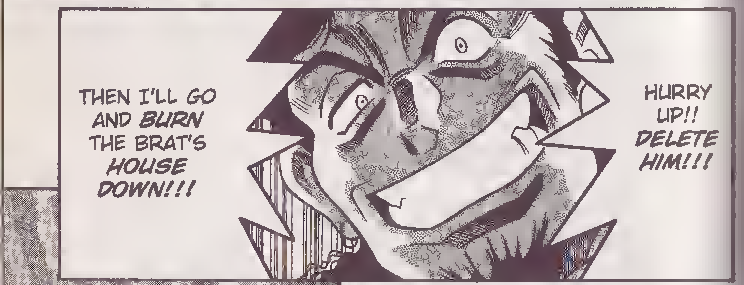

WHERE'S MEGA MAN?!
WE DON'T NEED THAT STUCK-UP SIMP.
YOU'RE A STANDARD OFF-THE-SHELF NETNAVI!
AN ALPHA-I TYPE AT THAT!

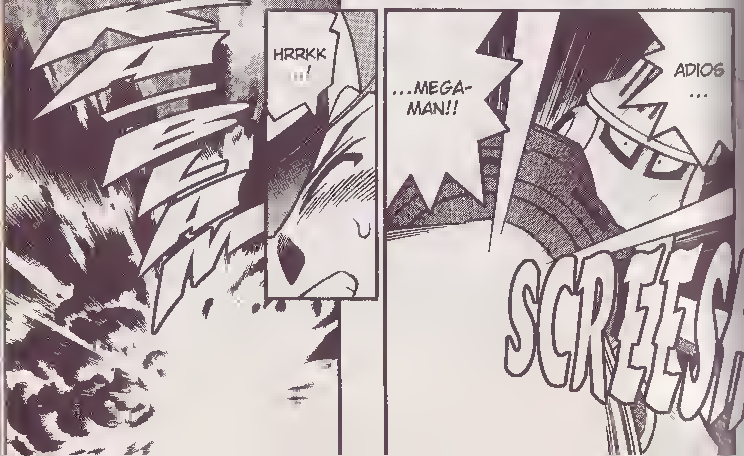

I KNEW THIS KID WASN'T JUST ANOTHER TECHIE BRAT!!
...IT'S SURE GOIN' TO TOWN!!
FOR A STOCK, UNCUSTOMIZED, UNOPTIMIZED NETNAVI..
MAN, AUTOCOPS ARE WIMPS!!
IS THAT IT?!
WHAT?
WHU?

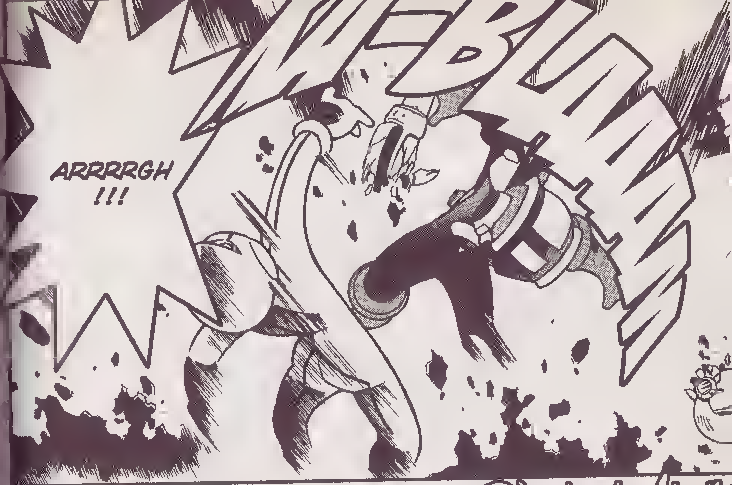
WIDE-SWORD!!
BATTLE-CHIP IN!
DELETE!
BLAM
POLICE
DELETE!
BLAM
BLAM
WIDESWORD
S
80
WHOOK

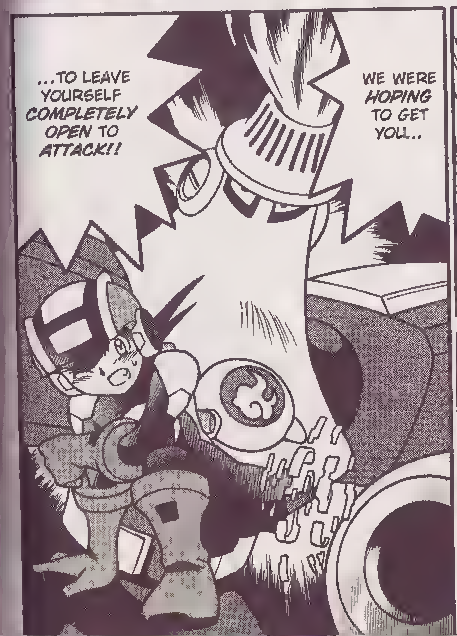

MEGA-MAN...!!
YOU CAN'T DO THIS, LAN!!
IT'S WRONG!!!
...!
IF YOU DON'T STOP...
...THEN I'LL HAVE TO STOP YOU!!!
CHA-CHINK
WHO IS THIS?
FOE.. OR ALLY?
...I WOULDA DODGED THAT STROKE EASY!!
IF I HAD MEGA-MAN HERE...
DELETE!
DELETE!
AW, DANG!
ZUU-PUNCH
CLIPPED! WAS I TOO SLOW?
TAH-TUM
NO!
STOP IT! NOW!!
CANNON!!
BATTLECHIP IN...
BTTH
BTTH
BTTH

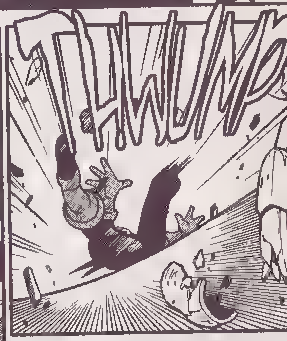

TORCH-MAN, YOU...!
...WITH YOUR LEG DE-REZZING LIKE THAT, YOU CAN BARELY EVEN MOVE.
POOR THING...

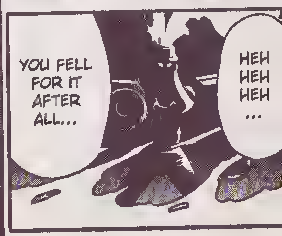

THEN I'LL GO AND BURN THE BRAT'S HOUSE DOWN!!!
HURRY UP!! DELETE HIM!!!

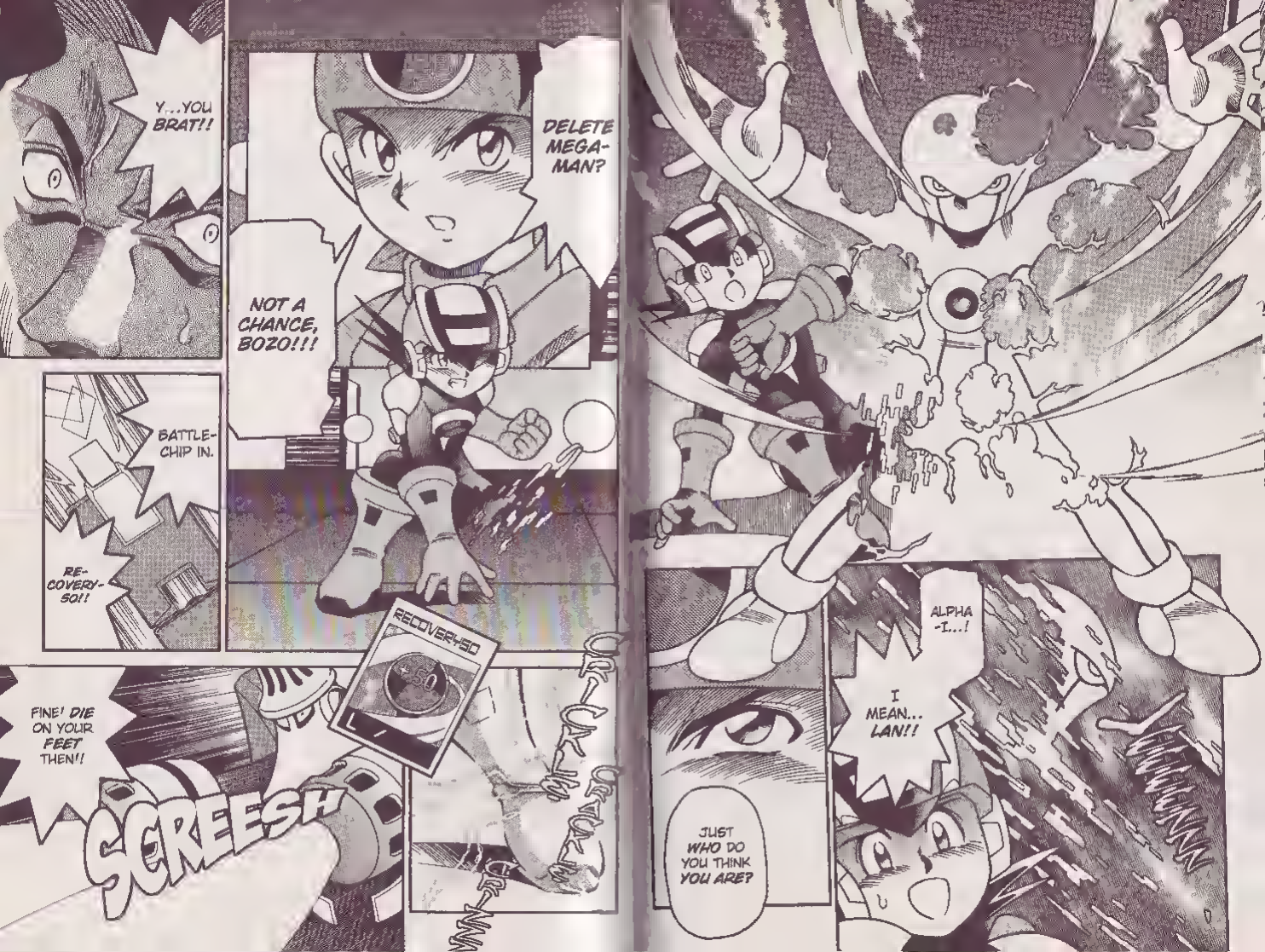

HRRKK !!
...MEGA-MAN!!
ADIOS ...
SCREECH

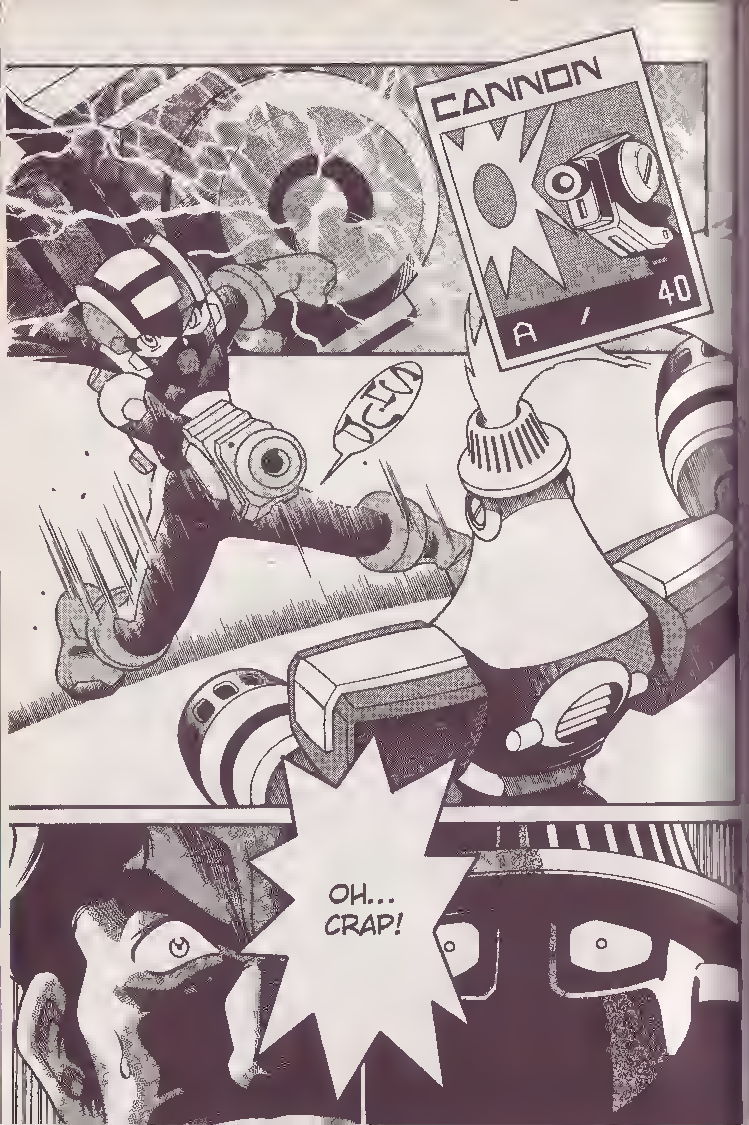

ARRRRGH !!!
THUMP

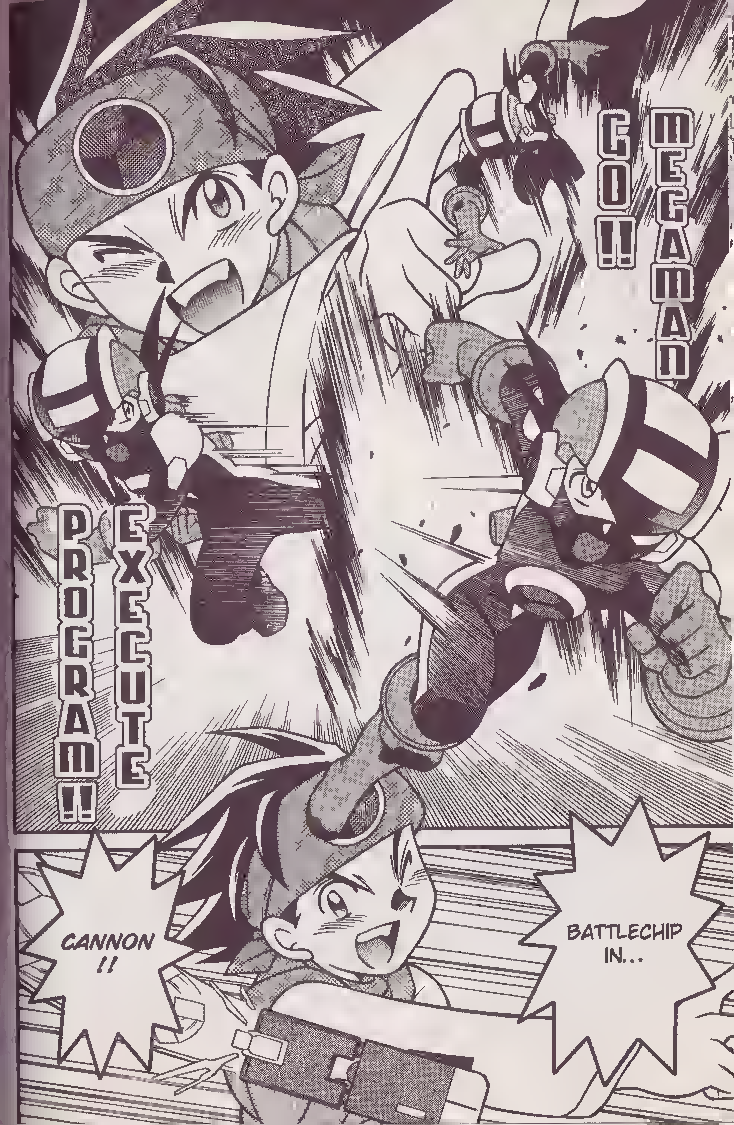

...TO LEAVE YOURSELF COMPLETELY OPEN TO ATTACK!!
WE WERE HOPING TO GET YOU...

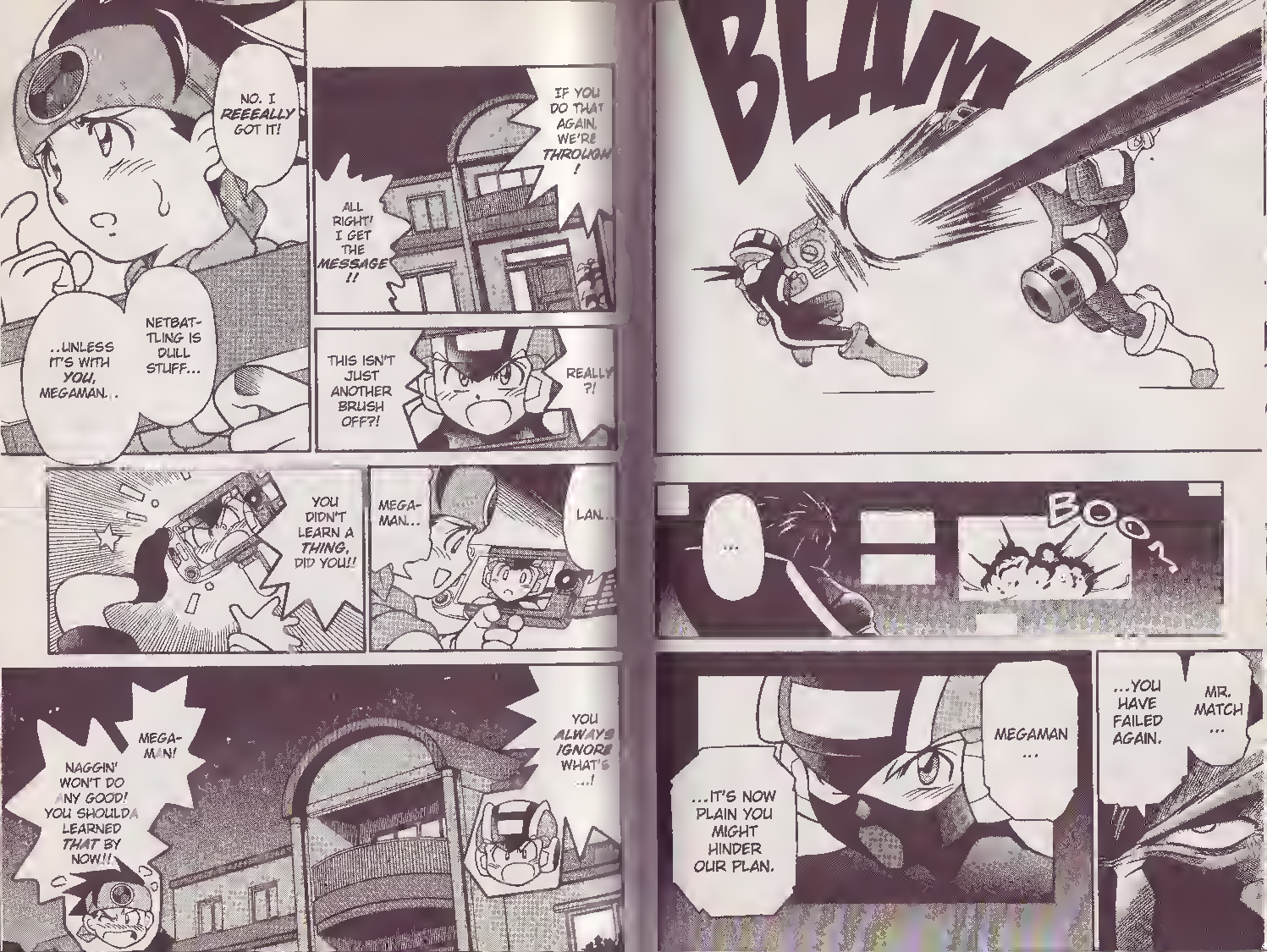

THWUMP


YOU FELL FOR IT AFTER ALL...
HEH HEH HEH ...


Y...YOU BRAT!!
DELETE MEGA-MAN?
NOT A CHANCE, BOZO!!!
BATTLE-CHIP IN.
RE-COVERY-50!!
RECOVERY50
+50
FINE! DIE ON YOUR FEET THEN!!
SCREESH
CRACKLE
ALPHA -I...!
I MEAN... LAN!!
JUST WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?


CANNON
A / 40
OH... CRAP!

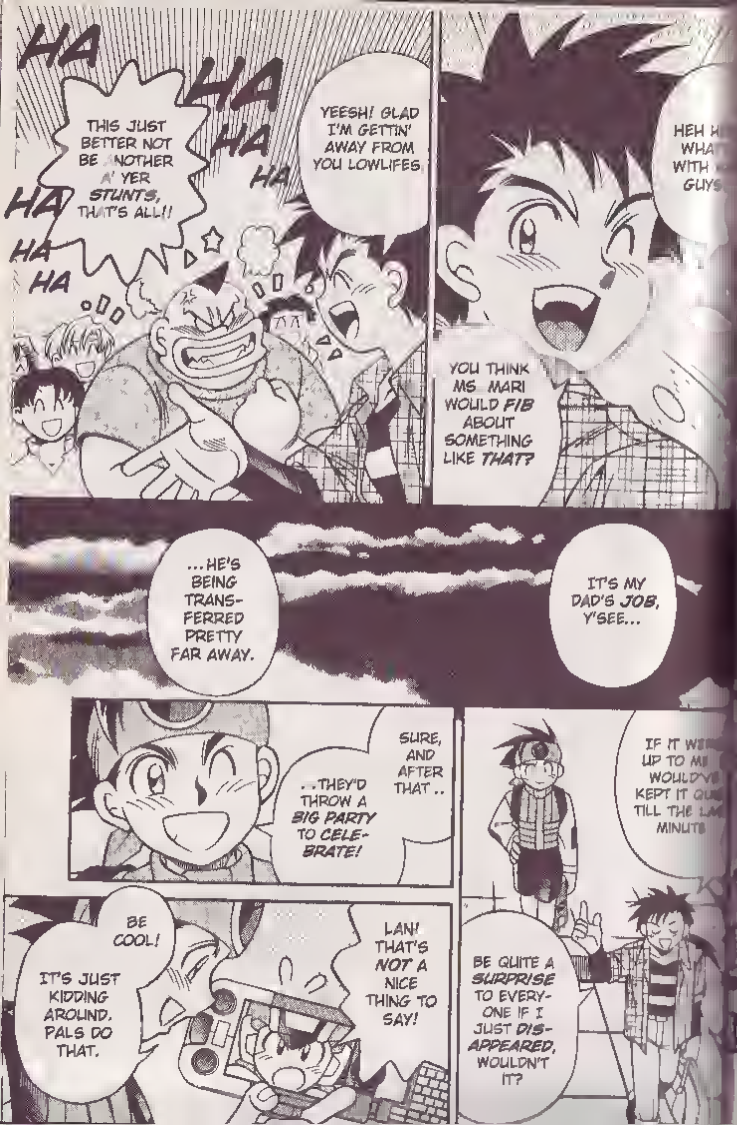

MEGAMAN GO!!
EXECUTE PROGRAM!!
CANNON !!
BATTLECHIP IN...

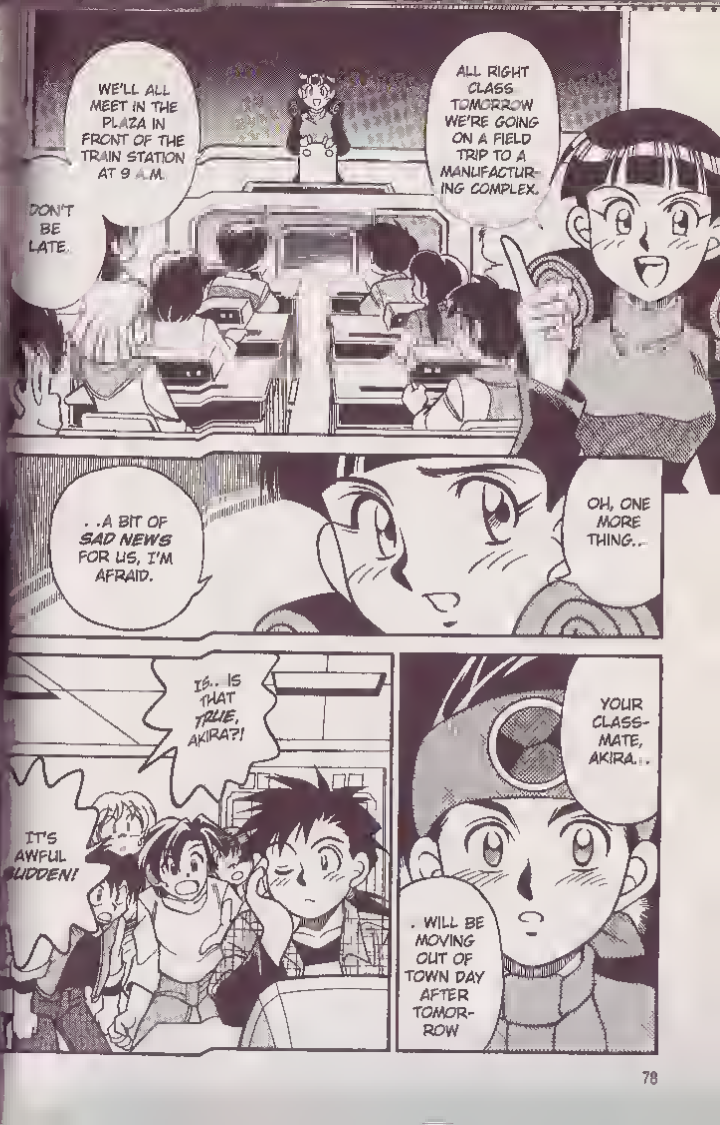

NO. I REEEALLY GOT IT!
..UNLESS IT'S WITH YOU, MEGAMAN..
NETBATTLING IS DULL STUFF...
IF YOU DO THAT AGAIN, WE'RE THROUGH!
ALL RIGHT! I GET THE MESSAGE!!
THIS ISN'T JUST ANOTHER BRUSH OFF?!
REALLY?!
BLAZE
YOU DIDN'T LEARN A THING, DID YOU!!
MEGA-MAN...
LAN...
...
BOOM
MEGA-MAN!
NAGGIN' WON'T DO ANY GOOD! YOU SHOULDA LEARNED THAT BY NOW!!
YOU ALWAYS IGNORE WHAT'S ...!
MEGAMAN...
...IT'S NOW PLAIN YOU MIGHT HINDER OUR PLAN.
...YOU HAVE FAILED AGAIN.
MR. MATCH...

CHAPTER 3: STOP THE RUNAWAY TRAIN!!

EEEEY-
AAAAH!!
LAN
EEEEE
EEE!!
HELP
AAAA
AH!!
AKIRA!!
L...
LAN!!

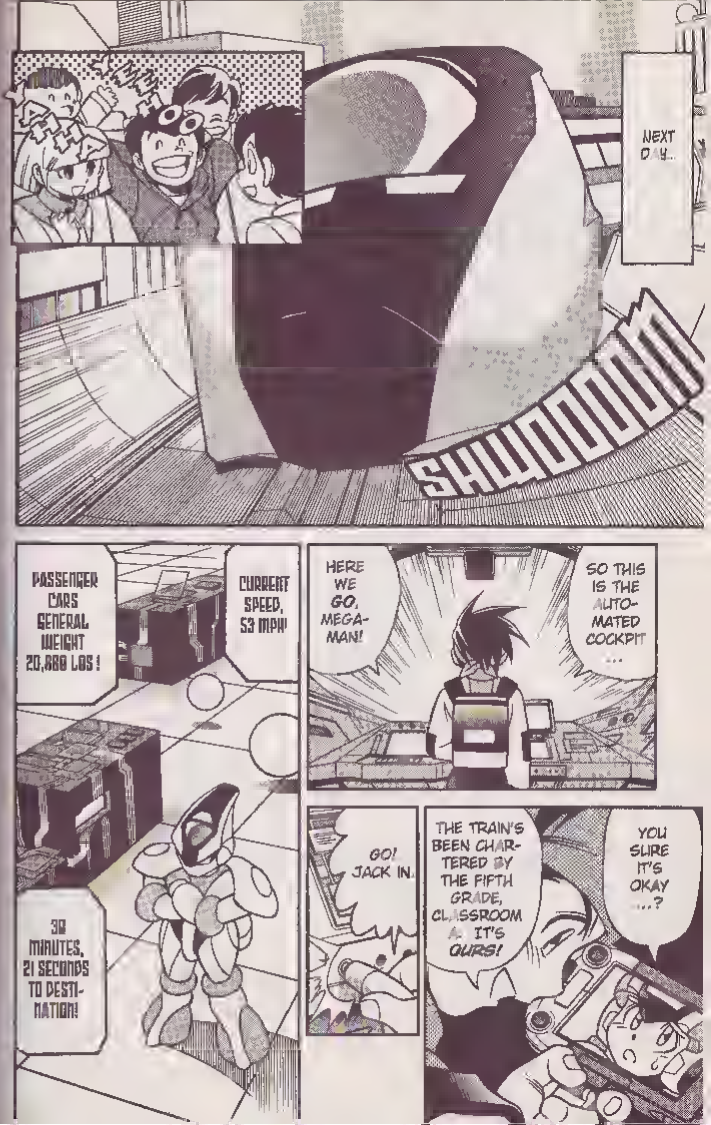
YOU TWO CAN'T STOP MAKING MAYHEM, CAN YOU!
TSK, TSK, TSK!
MAN, DIDJA SEE THE LOOKS WE GOT? HYSTER-ICAL!!
YEAH! WE TOTALLY SUCKERED 'EM!
YEAH, LAN, BUT YOU KNOW HOW TO STAGE 'EM!
IT'S AKIRA! HE GETS SUCH GREAT IDEAS!
HA HA ...EASE OFF, WILLYA?
.TODAY'S PRANK WAS A BIT OVER THE TOP, DON'T YOU THINK?
DOESN'T MATTER WHO GETS MORE CREDIT
IF WE'RE LATE, MS. MARI'S GONNA BLOW A GASKET!
LET'S GO, LAN!
WHAT ..?
...THE PRANK-STER BIZ SOON, ANYWAY.
I'LL BE BOWING OUT OF..
HA HA HA HA HA
IT'S A HOLOGRAM AND...
...KETCHUP! GOTCHA!
HUH?
HUH?
LAST TIME THEY PUT HOT SAUCE IN OUR RED BEAN BUNS!
THOSE TWO JUST WON'T LET UP!
THEY DIS-ASSEMBLED MY BIKE!
IF WE RUN AWAY FAST ENOUGH!
OUR PROJECT SHOCKER'S A RUNAWAY SUCCESS!
LAN! AKIRA! YOU... YOU ...!

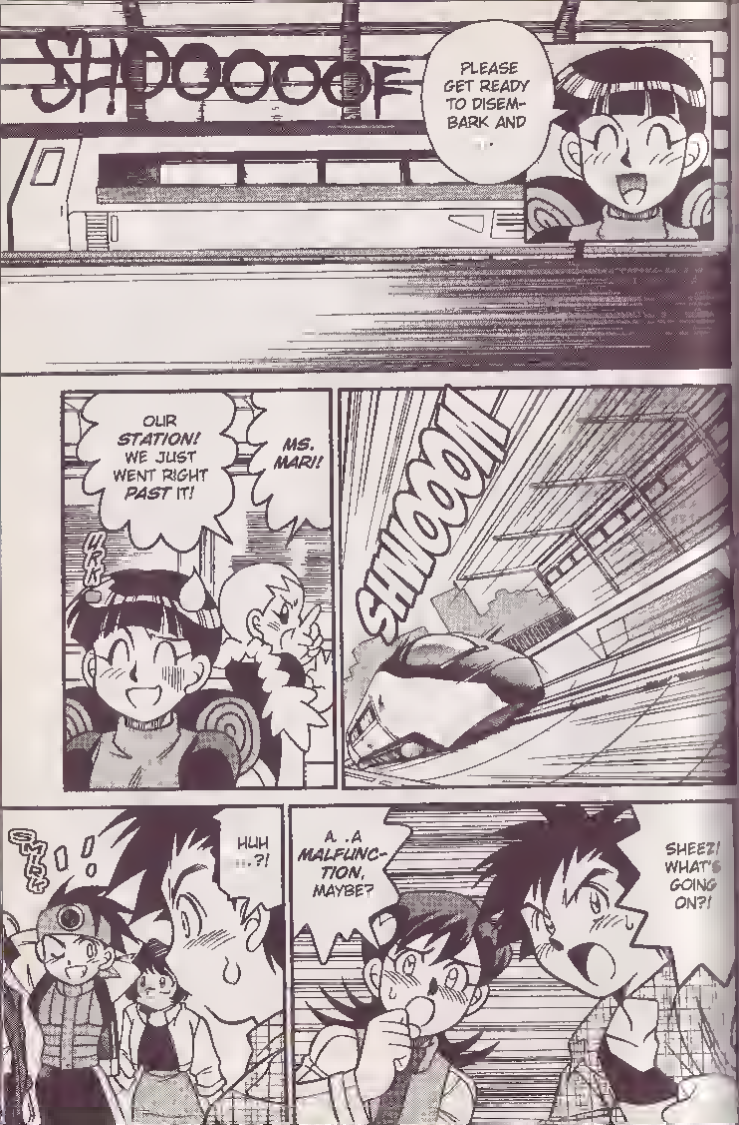

HA HA HA HA HA HA
THIS JUST BETTER NOT BE ANOTHER A' YER STUNTS, THAT'S ALL!!
YEESH! GLAD I'M GETTIN' AWAY FROM YOU LOWLIFES.
HEH H WHAT WITH GUYS.
YOU THINK MS. MARI WOULD FIB ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
...HE'S BEING TRANS-FERRED PRETTY FAR AWAY.
IT'S MY DAD'S JOB, Y'SEE...
SURE, AND AFTER THAT..
..THEY'D THROW A BIG PARTY TO CELE-BRATE!
IF IT WE UP TO MI WOULD'VE KEPT IT QUI TILL THE LA MINUTE
BE COOL! IT'S JUST KIDDING AROUND. PALS DO THAT.
LAN! THAT'S NOT A NICE THING TO SAY!
BE QUITE A SURPRISE TO EVERY-ONE IF I JUST DIS-APPEARED, WOULDN'T IT?

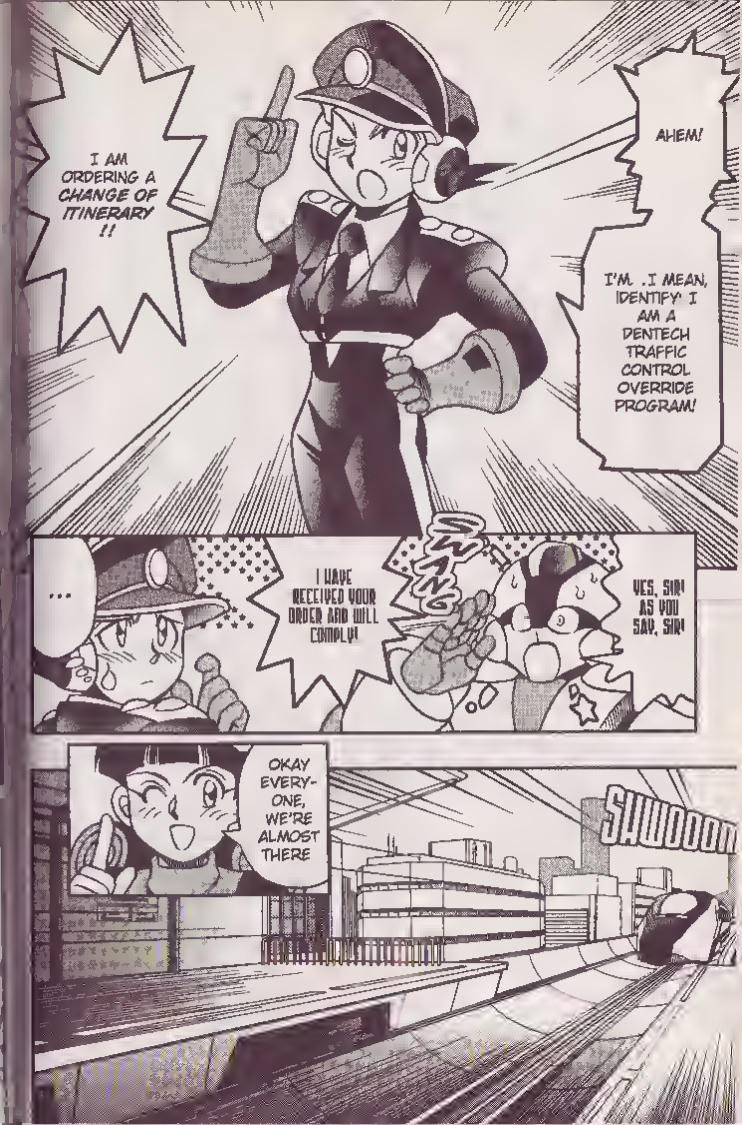

WE'LL ALL MEET IN THE PLAZA IN FRONT OF THE TRAIN STATION AT 9 A.M.
DON'T BE LATE.
ALL RIGHT CLASS TOMORROW WE'RE GOING ON A FIELD TRIP TO A MANUFACTUR-ING COMPLEX.
..A BIT OF SAD NEWS FOR US, I'M AFRAID.
OH, ONE MORE THING..
IS.. IS THAT TRUE, AKIRA?!
IT'S AWFUL SUDDEN!
YOUR CLASS-MATE, AKIRA..
. WILL BE MOVING OUT OF TOWN DAY AFTER TOMOR-ROW

AGGH!!
...TURN INTO THIS?
SEE?
PHEW! HE REALLY GOT ME!
HE ISN'T THE SORT TO GET ALL MUSHY ..
HAH! SEE YA TOMORROW, LAN!
...
YOU BET YOU WILL!
SOUNDS OMINOUS
I'M GONNA GIVE HIM A SEND-OFF HE WON'T FORGET!!
YOWZA !!
!
..DON'T FORGET ABOUT ME, OKAY ...
...ONCE I'M GONE ...
LAN...
AKIRA...
..ALREADY MISSING YOU?
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS HE'S ..
MAYBE DASH OFF AN E-MAIL EVERY SO OFTEN.
EVEN IF... IF I...
YOU .YOU DUMMY! SO WE'LL BE IN DIFFERENT TOWNS,
WE'RE STILL FRIENDS, RIGHT?

I REPEAT IDENTIFY YOURSELF!!
I'M THE PILOT PROGRAM FOR THIS TRAIN
NO UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL PERMITTED!
THIS MUST BE THE CONTROL AREA.
HUH? IDENTIFY YOURSELF!
HEYA. GOOD WORK...
E-r...
DOWNLOAD!
CHIP CLICK
DUMMY-MESSEN-GER
HEH HEH! TIME FOR THIS SPECIAL HOMEMADE CHIP.
ZZZAAT
ZZZAAT
ZZZAAT
?!


NEXT D...Y...
SHWOOOM
PASSENGER CARS GENERAL WEIGHT 20,880 LBS!
CURRENT SPEED, 53 MPH!
30 MINUTES, 21 SECONDS TO DESTI-NATION!
HERE WE GO, MEGA-MAN!
SO THIS IS THE AUTO-MATED COCKPIT...
GO! JACK IN.
THE TRAIN'S BEEN CHAR-TERED BY THE FIFTH GRADE, CLASSROOM A. IT'S OURS!
YOU SURE IT'S OKAY...?

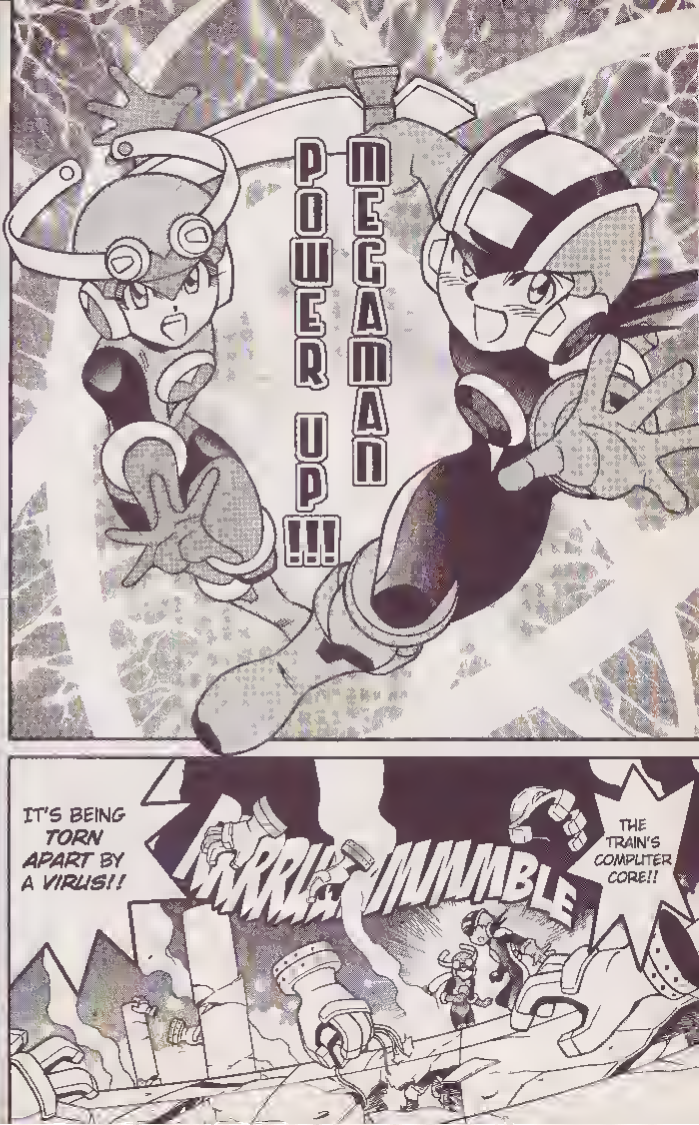

SHOOOOF
PLEASE GET READY TO DISEMBARK AND
OUR STATION! WE JUST WENT RIGHT PAST IT!
MS. MARI!
UHH
SHOOOMS
SWISH
HUH ...?!
A..A MALFUNCTION, MAYBE?
SHEEZ! WHAT'S GOING ON?!

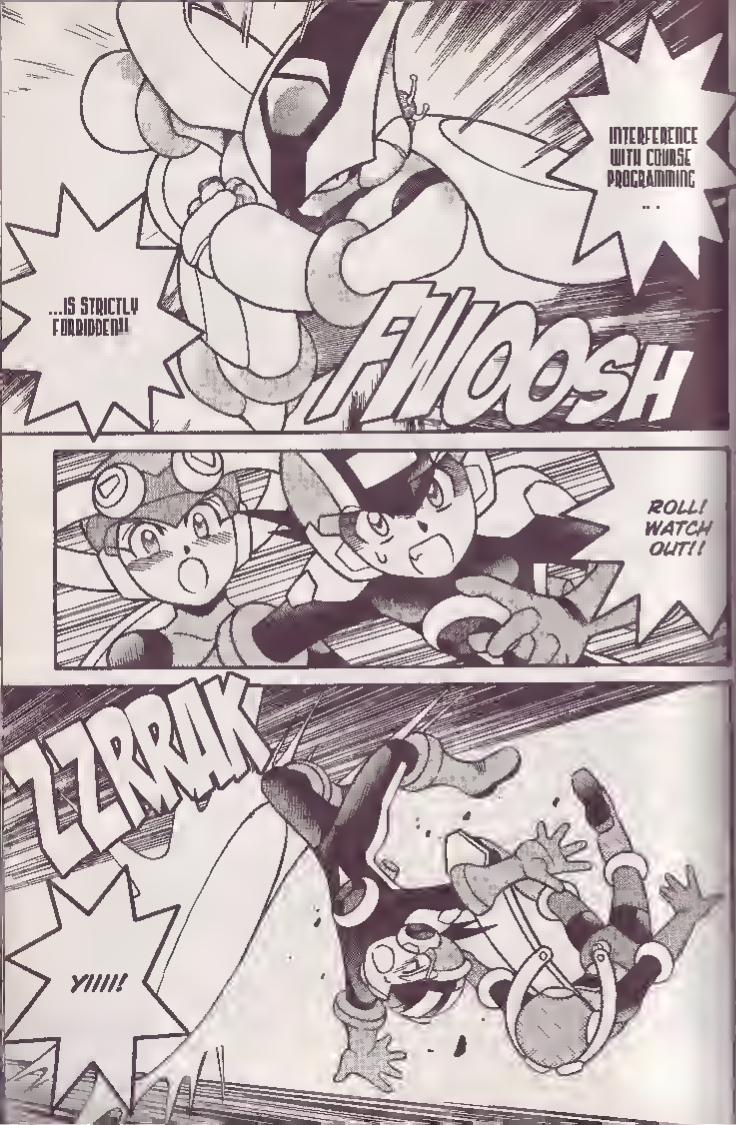

I AM ORDERING A CHANGE OF ITINERARY !!
AHEM!
I'M..I MEAN, IDENTIFY: I AM A DENTECH TRAFFIC CONTROL OVERRIDE PROGRAM!
...
I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR ORDER AND WILL COMPLY!
SWANG
YES, SIR! AS YOU SAY, SIR!
OKAY EVERYONE, WE'RE ALMOST THERE
SHWOOOM

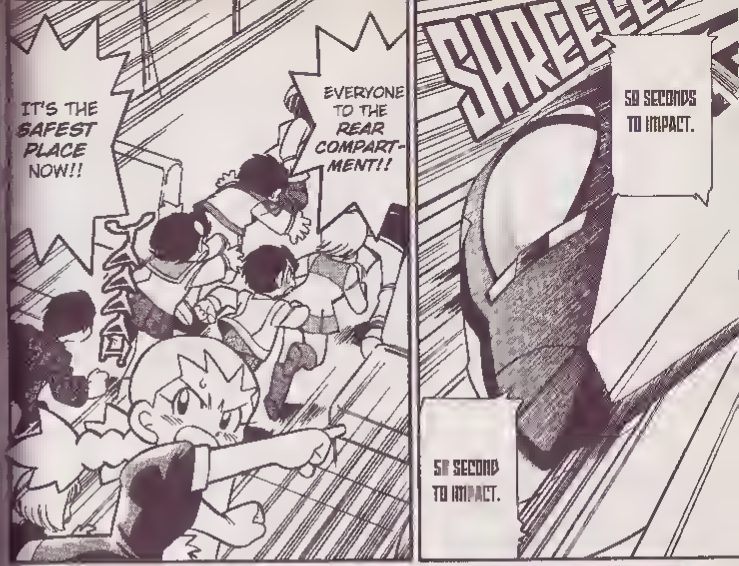
SHIIIIOOM
THIS IS SO COOOL.!
THE TRAIN'S PICKING UP SPEED!
..ON IDEA AND EXECUTION.
YOU ONE-UPPED ME GOOD, LAN..
NICE, EH?
DIDN'T INSTRUCT THE PILOT TO ACCEL-ERATE!
I..
HUH?
LAN, SOME-THING'S WRONG!
THAT'S FAST, MAN! FAST!!
112 MPH
LOOK! IT'S HIT 112 MPH!
SHWUUURR
I'M NOT! IT'S TRUE!
AW, C'MON, THAT'S LAME. STOP YANKIN' ME
WE'VE GOT THIS TRAIN FOR THE WHOLE DAY, SO LET'S RIDE!!!
LISTEN UP!!
WHO CARES ABOUT A BORING FIELD TRIP?!
THIS... THIS IS YOUR DOING?!
I'LL BE REPRI-MANDED ...BY THE PRINCIPAL ...AGAIN ...
FIELD TRIP.. TOTALLY RUINED .....
GUH GUH
MS. MARI!!
KA-THUMP!!
YOU'VE TOPPED YOUR-SELF!
AWRIGHT, LAN!
WE'LL HAVE US A "SUR-PRISE" PARTY! YEAH!

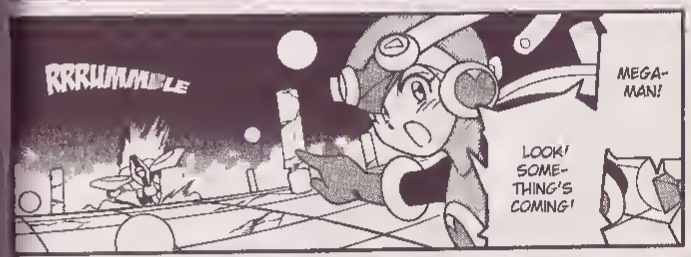
I TOLD YOU SO!
FOR REAL !!
LAN, THIS IS...
123 MPH
PLEASE DECREASE VELOCITY!
WARNING!
PLEASE DECREASE VELOCITY.
!!
WU-?
COLLISION IS IMMINENT! COLLISION IS IMMINENT!
BREET
BREET
!!
SLOW US DOWN!
MEGA-MAN!
DON'T STAND THERE YAKKIN' !!
DO SOME-THING!! STOP THIS THING!!
YOU'LL NEED ROLL!
3 MINUTES 54 SECONDS TO COLLISION!
3 MINUTES 50 SECONDS TO COLLISION!
JACK IN!!
SIT BACK AND RELAX! WON'T TAKE A SECOND!
NO SWEAT, IT'S MY SHOW.
...I WISH I COULD DO SOMETHING .I'M JUST NO GOOD WITH COM-PUTERS...
BOY, I WISH.

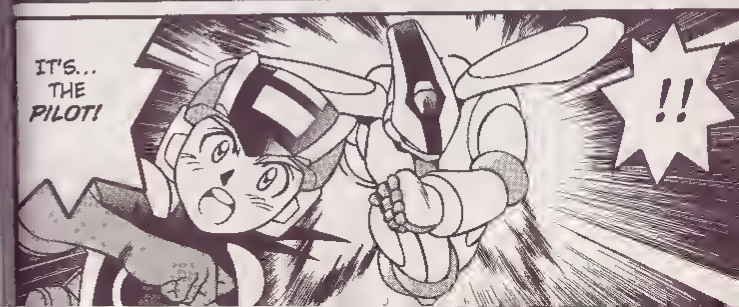
SHOOOF
DELETE!
DELETE!
INTRUDER!
INTRUDER!
!!
ROLL!
WE MUST GET TO THE CONTROL AREA AND HIT THE BRAKES!
I'LL DO IT!!
PEEOW
PEEOW
PEEO
PEEOW


MEGAMAN
POWER UP!!!
IT'S BEING TORN APART BY A VIRUS!!
THE TRAIN'S COMPUTER CORE!!


...IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN!!
INTERFERENCE WITH COURSE PROGRAMMING...
FWOOSH
ROLL! WATCH OUT!!
ZZRRAK
YIIII!


IT'S THE SAFEST PLACE NOW!!
EVERYONE TO THE REAR COMPARTMENT!!
SHREEEE
50 SECONDS TO IMPACT.
50 SECOND TO IMPACT.

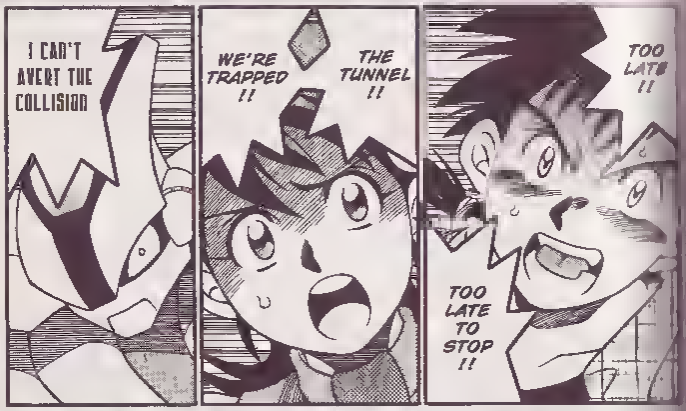

RRRUMMBLE
MEGA-MAN!
LOOK! SOME-THING'S COMING!

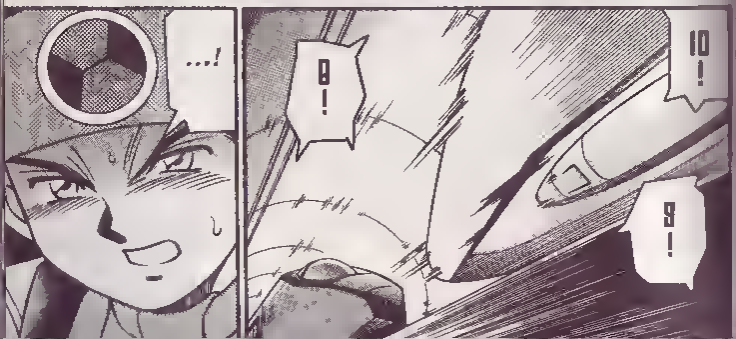

IT'S... THE PILOT!
!!

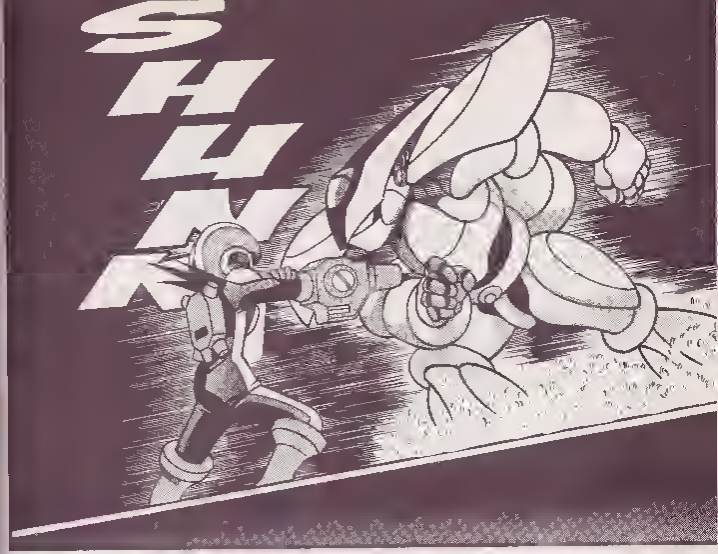
WSSH
34 SECONDS TO IMPACT!
32 SECONDS TO IMPACT!
DISASTER UPDATE, LAN!!
THE OTHER TRAIN... IT'S DEAD AHEAD!!
!!
YOU OKAY, ROLL?!
YEAH... BY A WHISKER!
LAN! WE NEED A PLAN HERE!!
RRRUMMBLE
HE'S COMING BACK!
TAKE HIM DOWN!
MEGA MAN!
THE PILOT'S GONE WONKY!
THAT'S WHAT'S MAKING HIM RUN AMOK!!
SEE?! A VIRUS!!
OH... !!
CHECK OUT THE PILOT'S NECK!
MEGA-MAN!
IF THE PILOTING PROGRAM IS DESTROYED
..WE MAY HAVE NO WAY TO CONTROL THE TRAIN!!
HOLD IT, LAN!
!

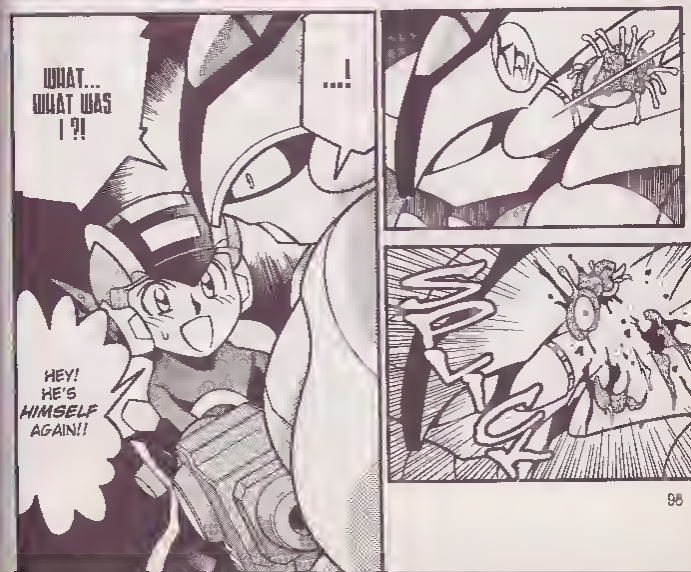
STAND BY, ROLL!!
MEGA-MAN!
ZAP THAT VIRUS!! QUICK!!
CANNON !!
BATTLE-CHIP IN!!
CANNON
SIGHTING ON BUG!!!
OH NO!! NOOOOOO !!!

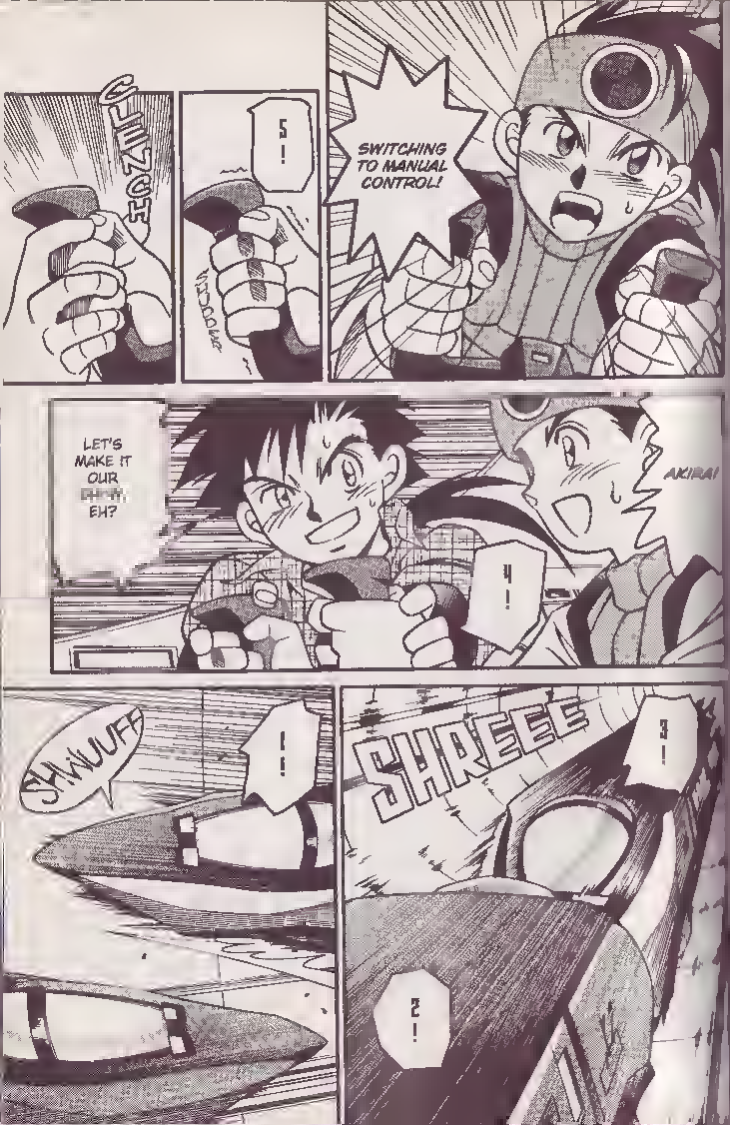
14 SECONDS TO COLLISION!
SHREEEE
18 SECONDS TO COLLISION!


I CAN'T AVERT THE COLLISION
WE'RE TRAPPED !!
THE TUNNEL !!
TOO LATE !!
TOO LATE TO STOP !!

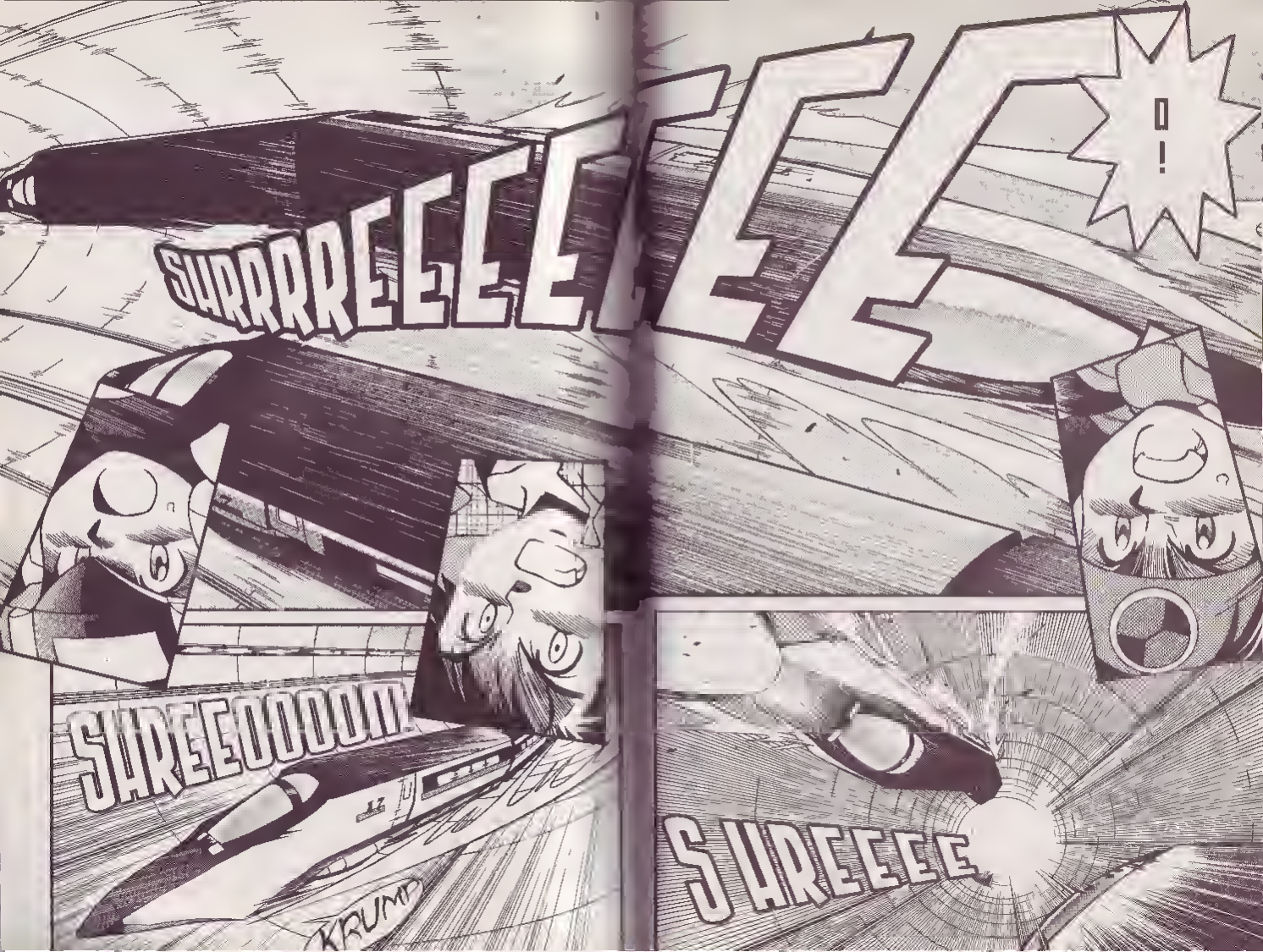

...!
9 !
10 !
9 !

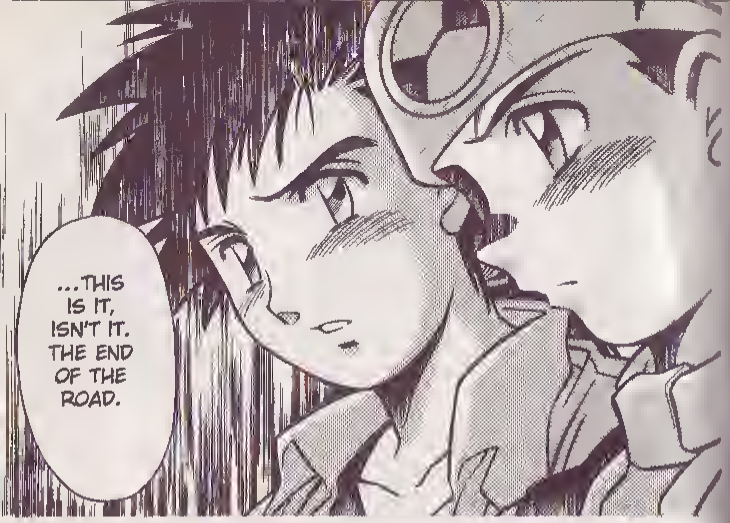

SHUNK

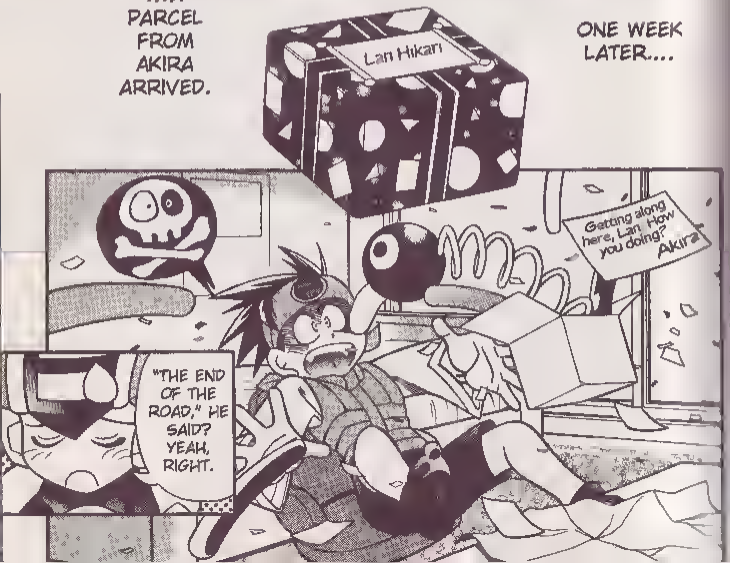

WHAT... WHAT WAS I ?!
...!
HEY! HE'S HIMSELF AGAIN!!
KA!
SPLICH


SWITCHING TO MANUAL CONTROL!
5!
AKIRA!
LET'S MAKE IT OUR [illegible], EH?
4!
SHREEE
3!
2!
SHNUFF
1!

ACCEL-ERATE!!!
ACTIVATE EMERGENCY ACCELERATION BOOSTERS!!
AFFIRMA-TIVE!
WHAT?! ARE YOU NUTS?!
7!
BOOM
PH
1!


SHRRRREEEEEEE
!
SHREEOOOOM
KRUMP
SHREEEE

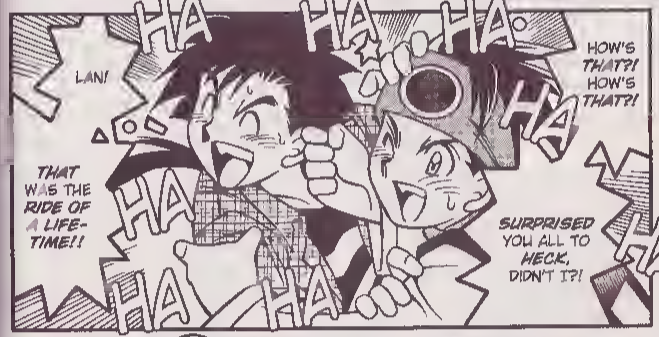

...THIS IS IT, ISN'T IT. THE END OF THE ROAD.


...A PARCEL FROM AKIRA ARRIVED.
Lan Hikari
ONE WEEK LATER....
Getting along here, Lan. How you doing? Akira
"THE END OF THE ROAD," HE SAID? YEAH, RIGHT.

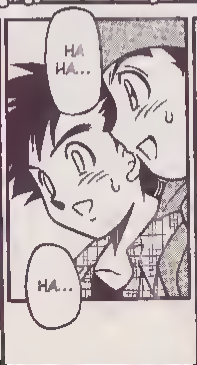
INCRED-IBLE PILOTING, LAN!!

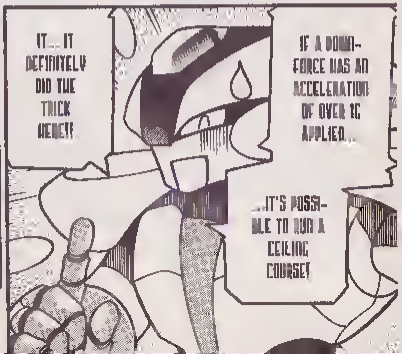
WHEW! I DON'T BELIEVE IT...!

WE DIDN'T CRASH!!
WE'RE... STILL ALIVE!!

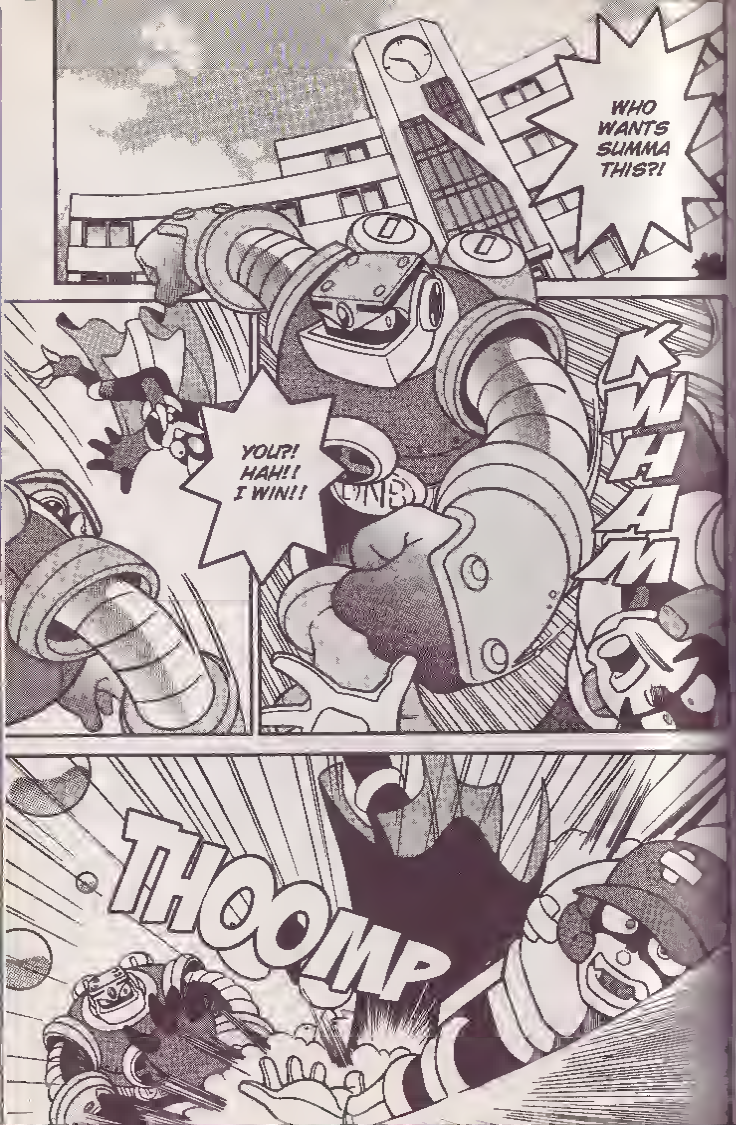

LAN!
HA HA HA
HOW'S THAT?! HOW'S THAT?!
THAT WAS THE RIDE OF A LIFE-TIME!!
SURPRISED YOU ALL TO HECK, DIDN'T I?!

STILL...


HA HA...
HA...


IT... IT DEFINITELY DID THE TRICK HERE!!
IF A DOWN-FORCE HAS AN ACCELERATION OF OVER 1G APPLIED...
...IT'S POSSI-BLE TO RUN A CEILING COURSE!

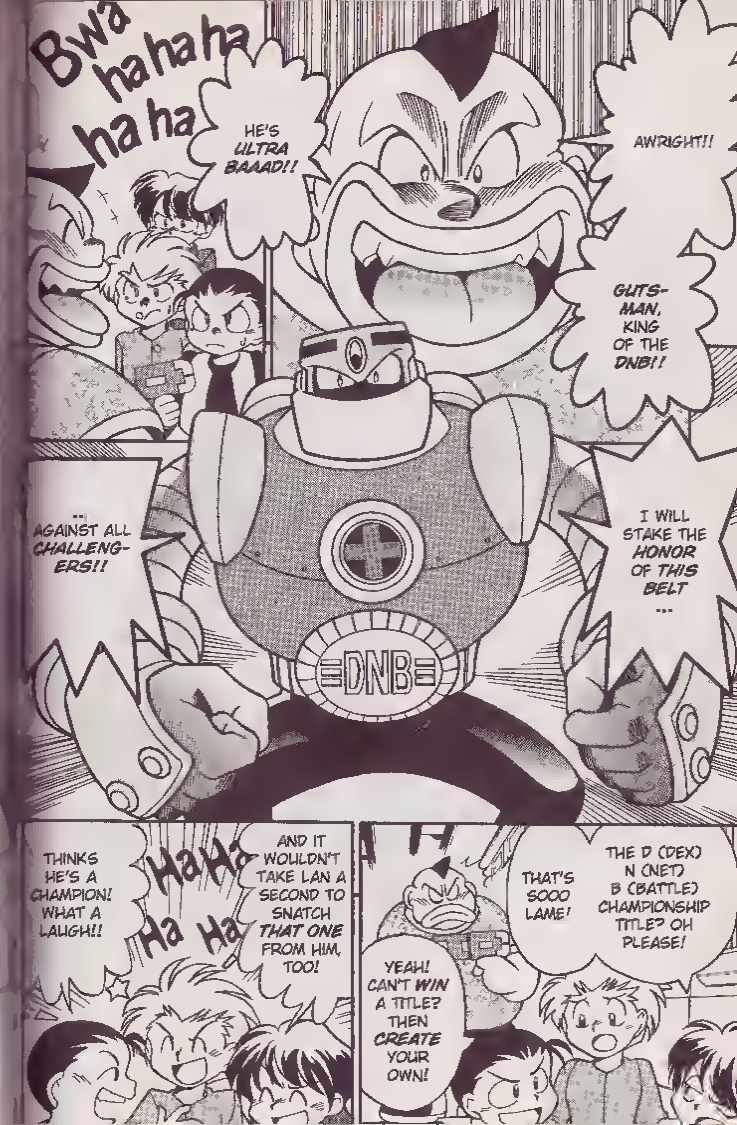
JUDGMENT SHALL BE POURED DOWN UPON ALL OF YOU
AND IT SHALL BE...
THE DAY OF RECK-ONING IS NIGH
INCOM-PETENT HUMANS ...
FOOLISH HUMANS ...
UGLY HUMANS ...
... COMPLETE AND TOTAL...
...DELETION !!!



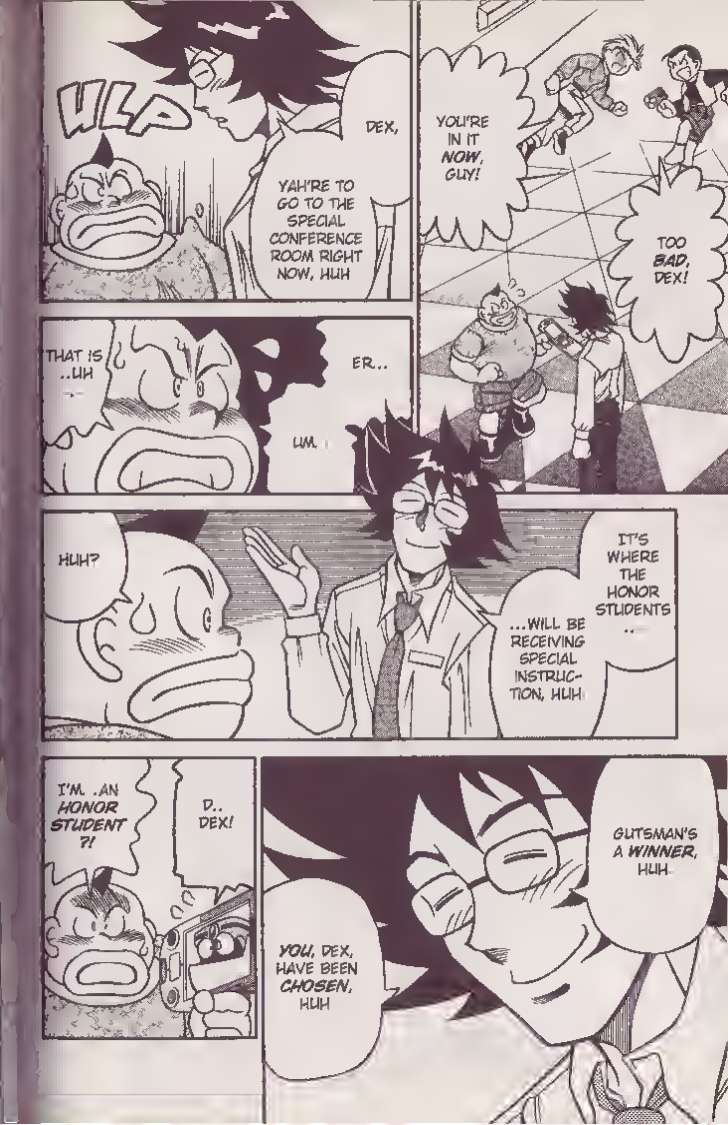
C'MON WIMPS! C'MON! C'MON!

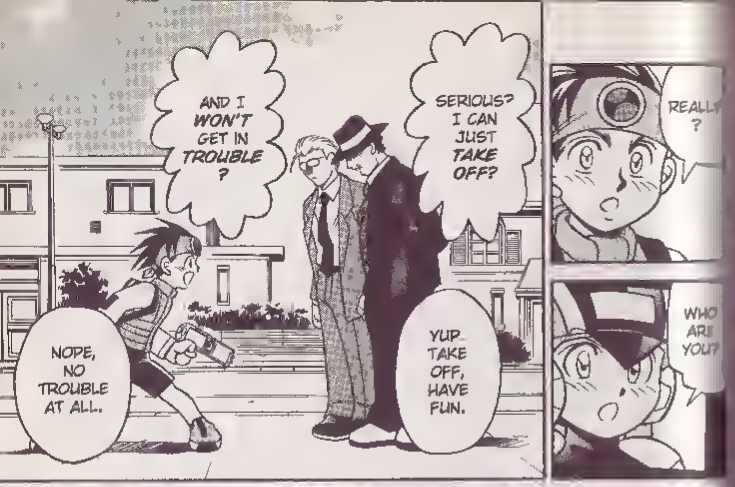
CHAPTER 4: THE FIGHTERSWORD OF FURY!!

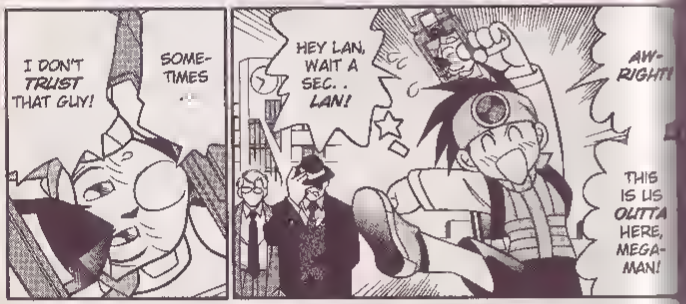
OKAY, GUYS, LET'S BREAK IT UP.
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
GUTSMAN IS ALL-POWERFUL! INVINCI-BLE!
SHADOW !!!
WHO TH' DOOT ARE YOU!?
VIOLENCE ISN'T COOL, HUH
HE'LL TRASH MEGAMAN LIKE THE PIECE OF JUNK HE IS!!
I'M HIGSBY, THE STUDENT TEACHER
AH, HOW QUICKLY THEY FORGET.
D'OH!
AWK! STUDENT TEACHER!!

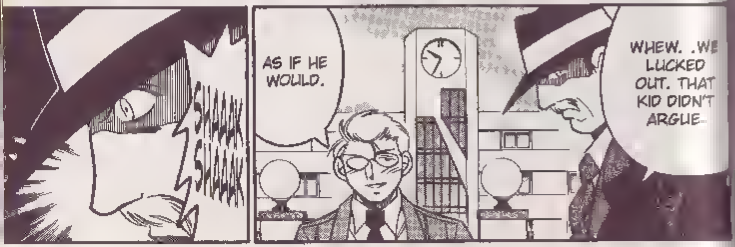

Bwa ha ha ha ha
HE'S ULTRA BAAAD!!
AWRIGHT!!
GUTS-MAN, KING OF THE DNB!!
DNB
... AGAINST ALL CHALLENG-ERS!!
I WILL STAKE THE HONOR OF THIS BELT ...
THINKS HE'S A CHAMPION! WHAT A LAUGH!!
Ha Ha Ha Ha
AND IT WOULDN'T TAKE LAN A SECOND TO SNATCH THAT ONE FROM HIM, TOO!
THAT'S SOOO LAME!
THE D (DEX) N (NET) B (BATTLE) CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE? OH PLEASE!
YEAH! CAN'T WIN A TITLE? THEN CREATE YOUR OWN!

Smmmack
DEX!
GUTS-MAN!!
THE COUNT-LESS DAYS OF TRAINING AND CUS-TOMIZATION THEY'VE FINALLY PAID OFF!!
OUR FIRST HONOR! OF ANY KIND!!
...BEST GET GOING, HUH..
WELL THEN.
I'M LAAA-AATE!!!
I'M LATE!
I'M LATE!!


HLP
DEX,
YAH'RE TO GO TO THE SPECIAL CONFERENCE ROOM RIGHT NOW, HUH
YOU'RE IN IT NOW, GUY!
TOO BAD, DEX!
THAT IS ..UH
ER..
UM..
HUH?
...WILL BE RECEIVING SPECIAL INSTRUC-TION, HUH
IT'S WHERE THE HONOR STUDENTS ..
I'M. .AN HONOR STUDENT ?!
D.. DEX!
YOU, DEX, HAVE BEEN CHOSEN, HUH
GUTSMAN'S A WINNER, HUH


AND I WON'T GET IN TROUBLE?
SERIOUS? I CAN JUST TAKE OFF?
NOPE, NO TROUBLE AT ALL..
YUP- TAKE OFF, HAVE FUN.
REALLY?
WHO ARE YOU?

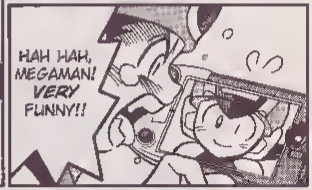

I DON'T TRUST THAT GUY!
SOME-TIMES...
HEY LAN, WAIT A SEC.. LAN!
AW-RIGHT!
THIS IS US OUTTA HERE, MEGA-MAN!


SHAAAK SHAAAK
AS IF HE WOULD.
WHEW. .WE LUCKED OUT. THAT KID DIDN'T ARGUE-

HEY!! OPEN UP!!
...BUT THE SCHOOL GATES ARE SHUT! WHAT GIVES?!!

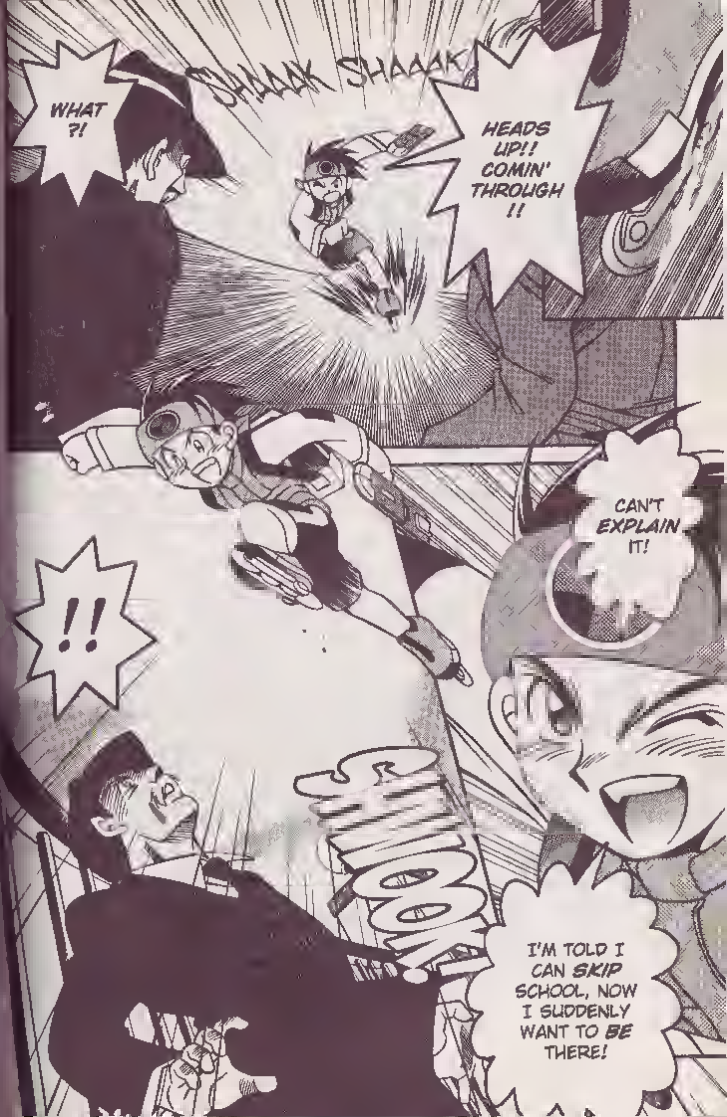
...DO YOU ATTEND THIS SCHOOL?
CHUCKLE
HEY KID...
!?

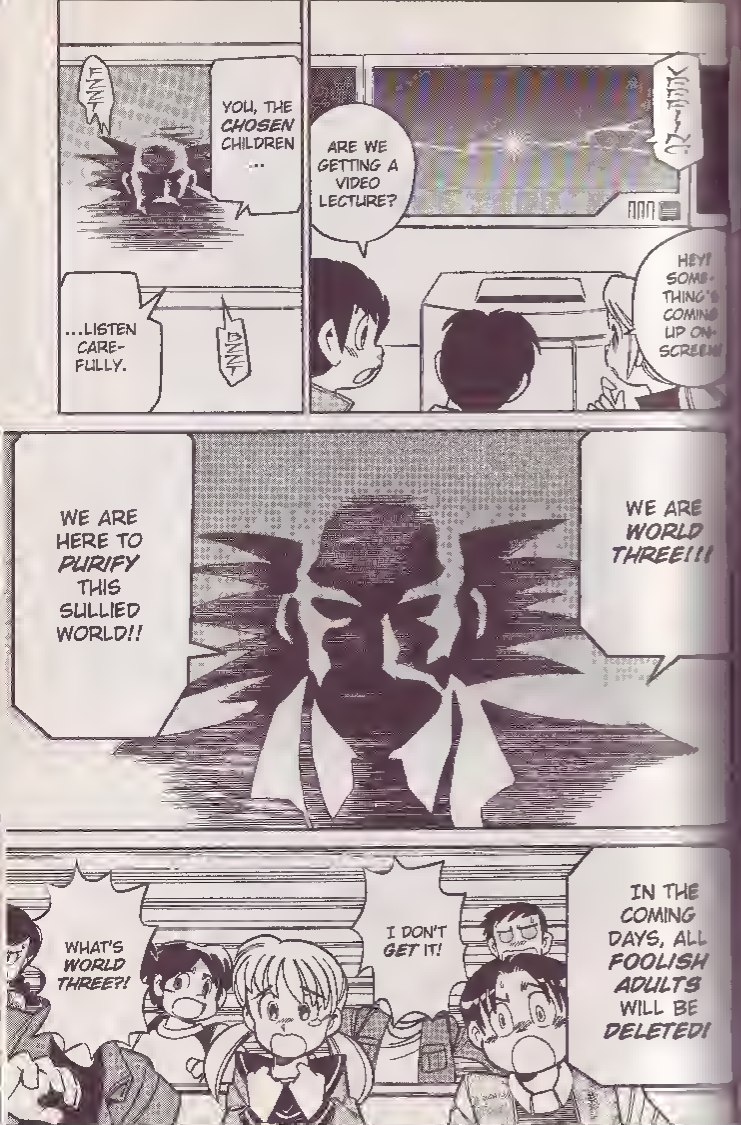
LOCKED OUT, EH LAN? FIRED FROM FIFTH GRADE!


HAH HAH, MEGAMAN! VERY FUNNY!!

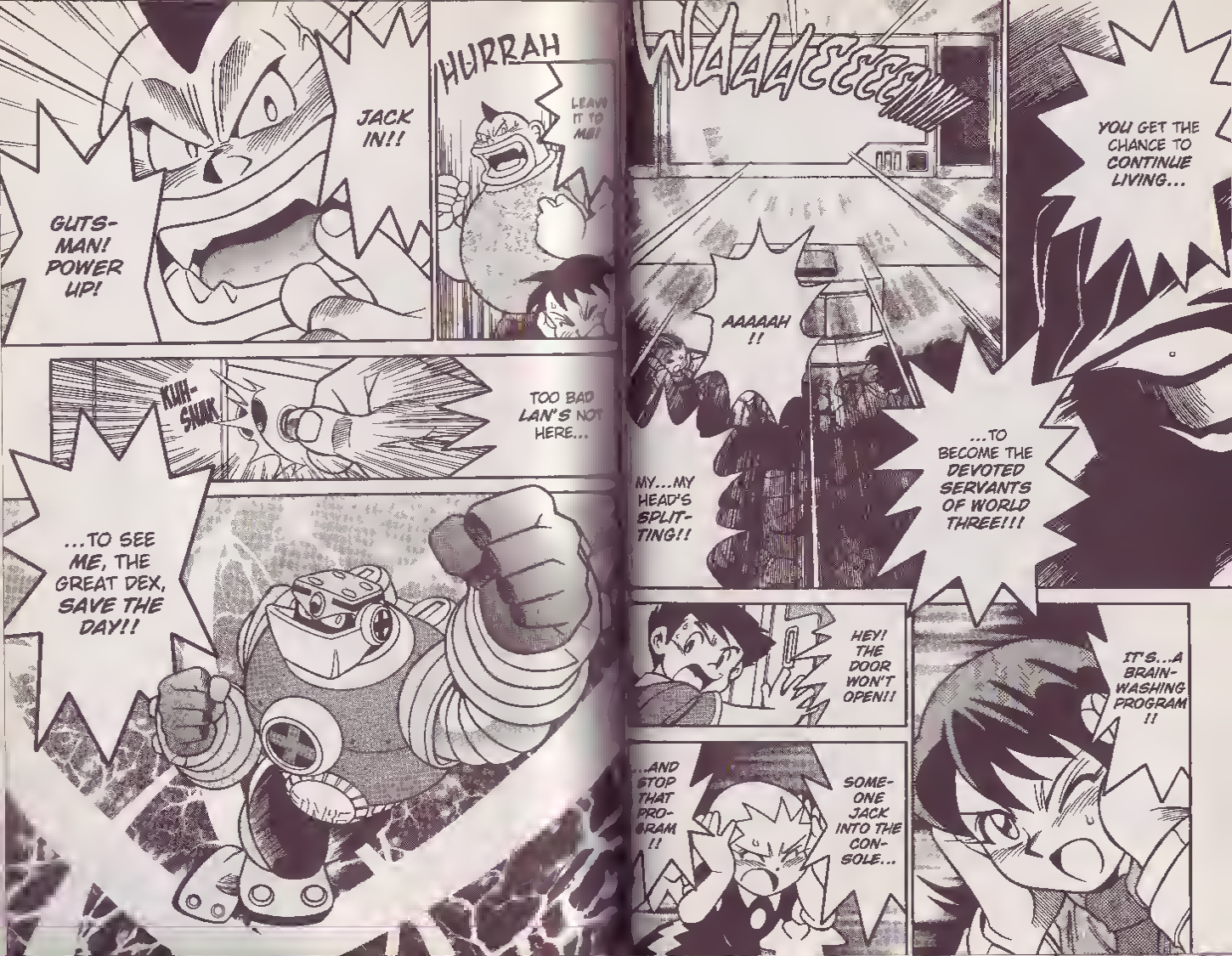
WELL, YOU DON'T HAVE TO TODAY. GO ON HOME.
...

YOU'RE SO CONTRARY, LAN!
HEH-HEH, EASY PEASY!
KA-THUD
FEH. I DIDN'T EXPECT THAT STUNT.
THAT LITTLE BRAT!
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!
WELL...
..HE'S GOT SPIRIT, THAT ONE.
VERY WELL! LET'S GO!
EVERY-THING'S READY, SIR!
WE CAN JACK IN TO THE SCHOOL'S NETWORK ANY TIME!
AND MAKE SURE NO ONE LEAVES THE GROUNDS!

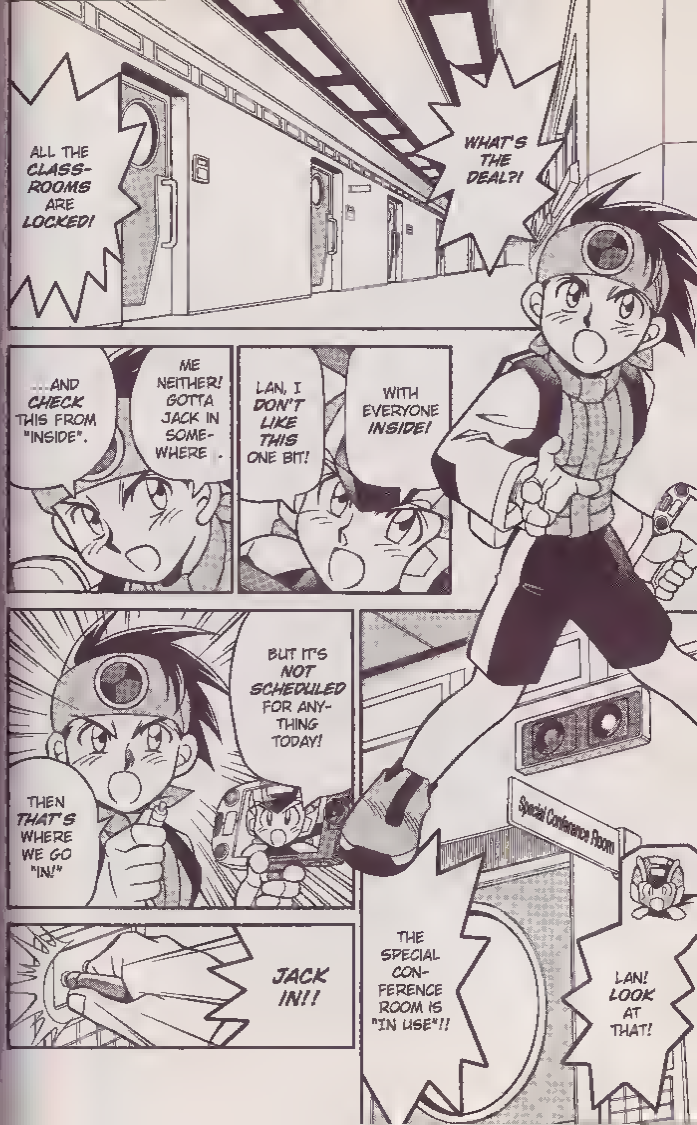

WHAT ?!
SHAAK SHAAAK
HEADS UP!! COMIN' THROUGH !!
!!
CAN'T EXPLAIN IT!
I'M TOLD I CAN SKIP SCHOOL, NOW I SUDDENLY WANT TO BE THERE!


FZZT
YOU, THE CHOSEN CHILDREN ...
...LISTEN CARE-FULLY.
DNNT
ARE WE GETTING A VIDEO LECTURE?
KSHHH~
HEY! SOMETHING'S COMING UP ON-SCREEN!
WE ARE HERE TO PURIFY THIS SULLIED WORLD!!
WE ARE WORLD THREE!!!
WHAT'S WORLD THREE?!
I DON'T GET IT!
IN THE COMING DAYS, ALL FOOLISH ADULTS WILL BE DELETED!

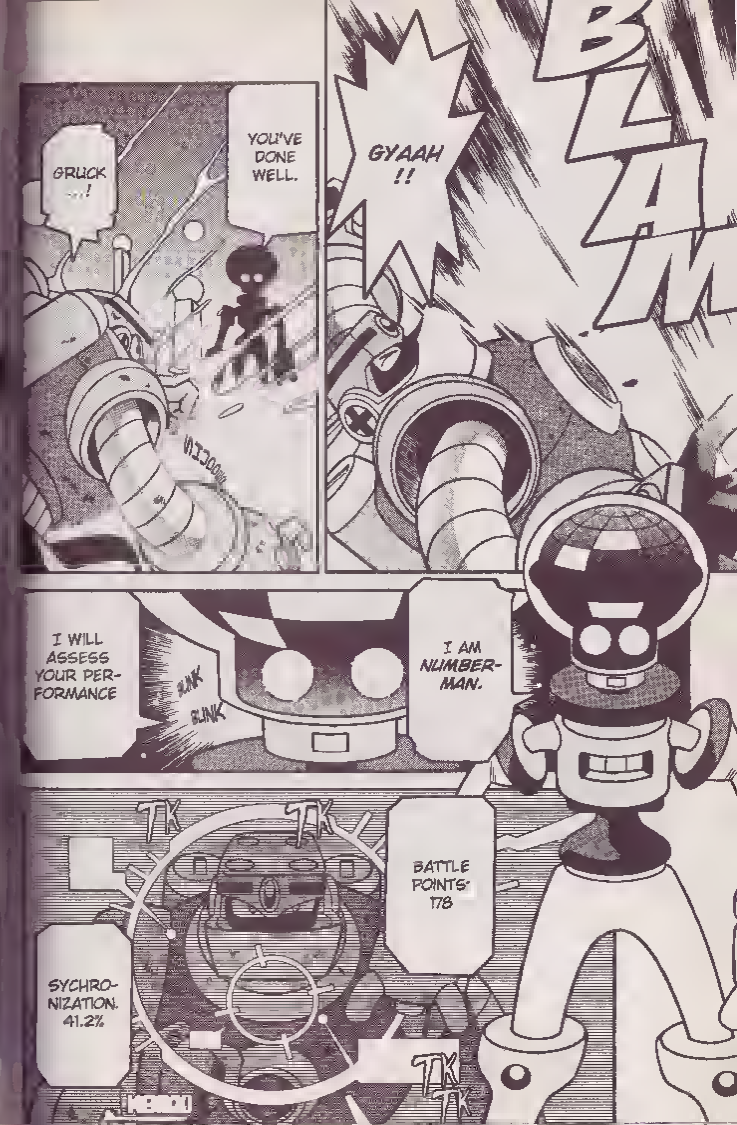
Special Conference Room
YOU'RE ALL HONOR STUDENTS, TOO? WHAT A RIP-OFF!!
WOT THE HECK IS THIS?!
STOP IT, YOU TWO!
WHAT I SAID!
WHAT-CHOO MEAN BY THAT, YA!?!
...THE SELECTION PROCESS LEAVES A LOT TO BE DESIRED.
IF DEX WAS CHOSEN...
MR. HIGGSBY'S NOT LEADING THIS CLASS. SO WHAT HAPPENS NOW?
HUH?
SLAM
SIT TIGHT AND PAY ATTENTION, HUH.
ALL HERE? GOOD.

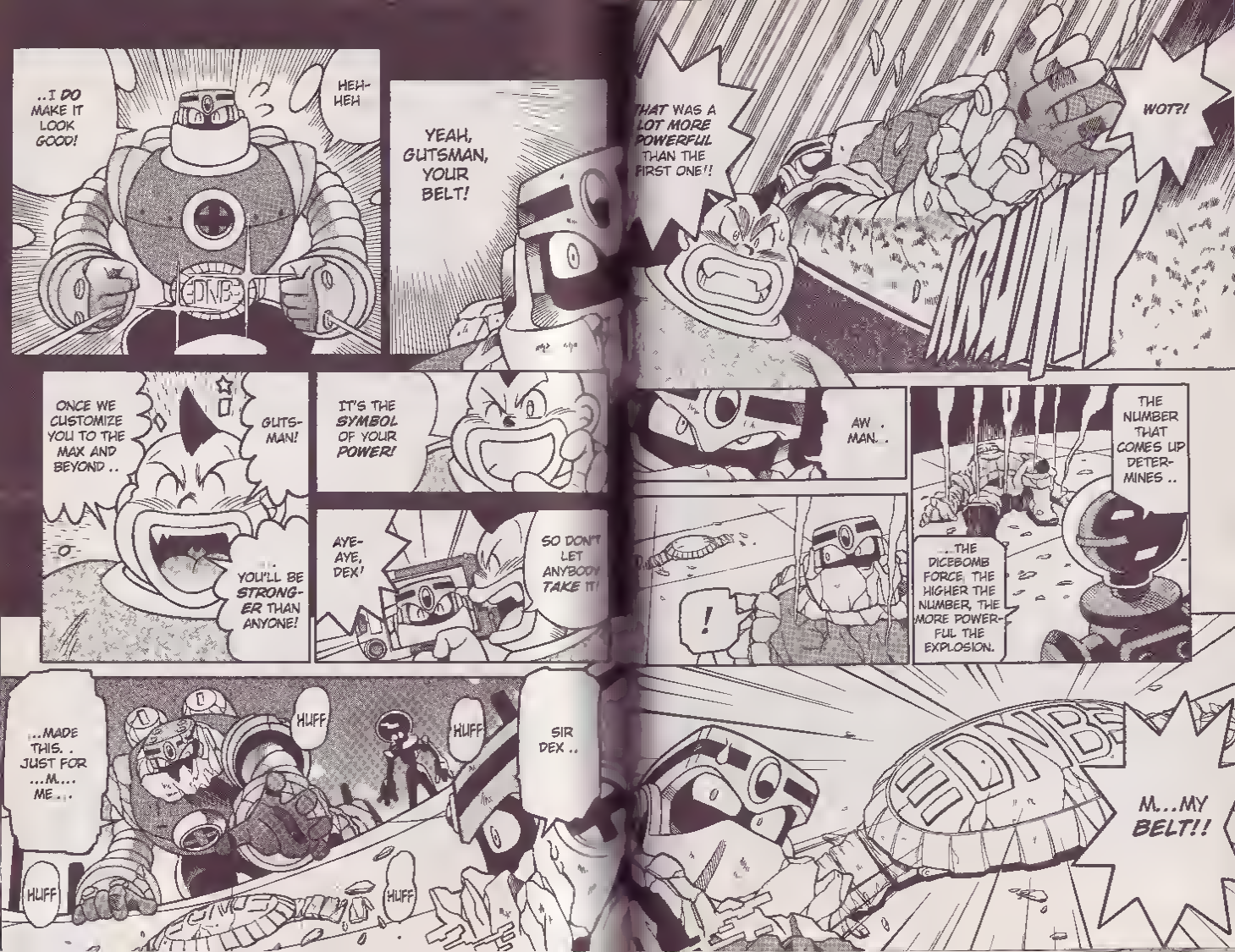

GUTS-MAN! POWER UP!
JACK IN!!
HURRAH
LEAVE IT TO ME!
KUH-SHUK
TOO BAD LAN'S NOT HERE...
...TO SEE ME, THE GREAT DEX, SAVE THE DAY!!
WAAAAGGGGH
AAAAAH !!
MY...MY HEAD'S SPLIT-TING!!
YOU GET THE CHANCE TO CONTINUE LIVING...
...TO BECOME THE DEVOTED SERVANTS OF WORLD THREE!!!
HEY! THE DOOR WON'T OPEN!!
...AND STOP THAT PRO-GRAM !!
SOME-ONE JACK INTO THE CON-SOLE...
IT'S...A BRAIN-WASHING PROGRAM !!

STUPID IDIOT VIRUSES!!
COME ON, COME ON, COME ON!!!
STOP RUN-NING!!
GIVE IT UP!!
CLACK
1
4
2
HUH?
CLUTTA CLUTTA CLUTTA

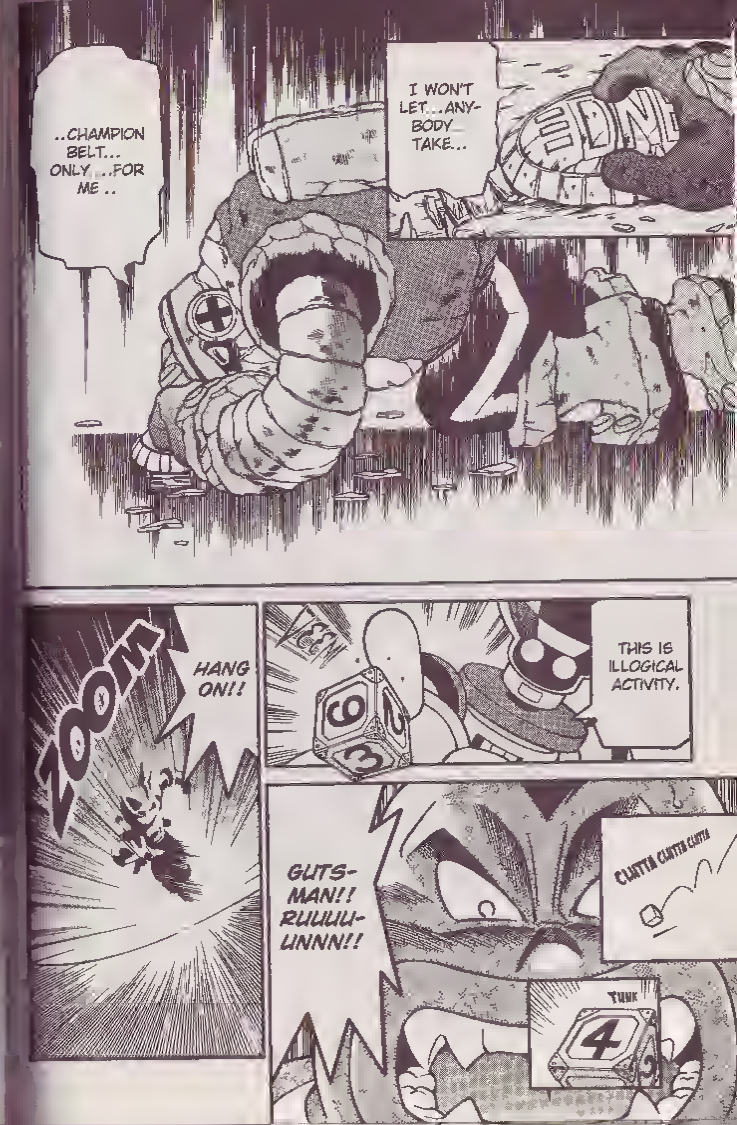

ALL THE CLASS-ROOMS ARE LOCKED!
WHAT'S THE DEAL?!
...AND CHECK THIS FROM "INSIDE".
ME NEITHER! GOTTA JACK IN SOME-WHERE.
LAN, I DON'T LIKE THIS ONE BIT!
WITH EVERYONE INSIDE!
BUT IT'S NOT SCHEDULED FOR ANY-THING TODAY!
THEN THAT'S WHERE WE GO "IN!"
JACK IN!!
Special Conference Room
THE SPECIAL CON-FERENCE ROOM IS "IN USE"!!
LAN! LOOK AT THAT!

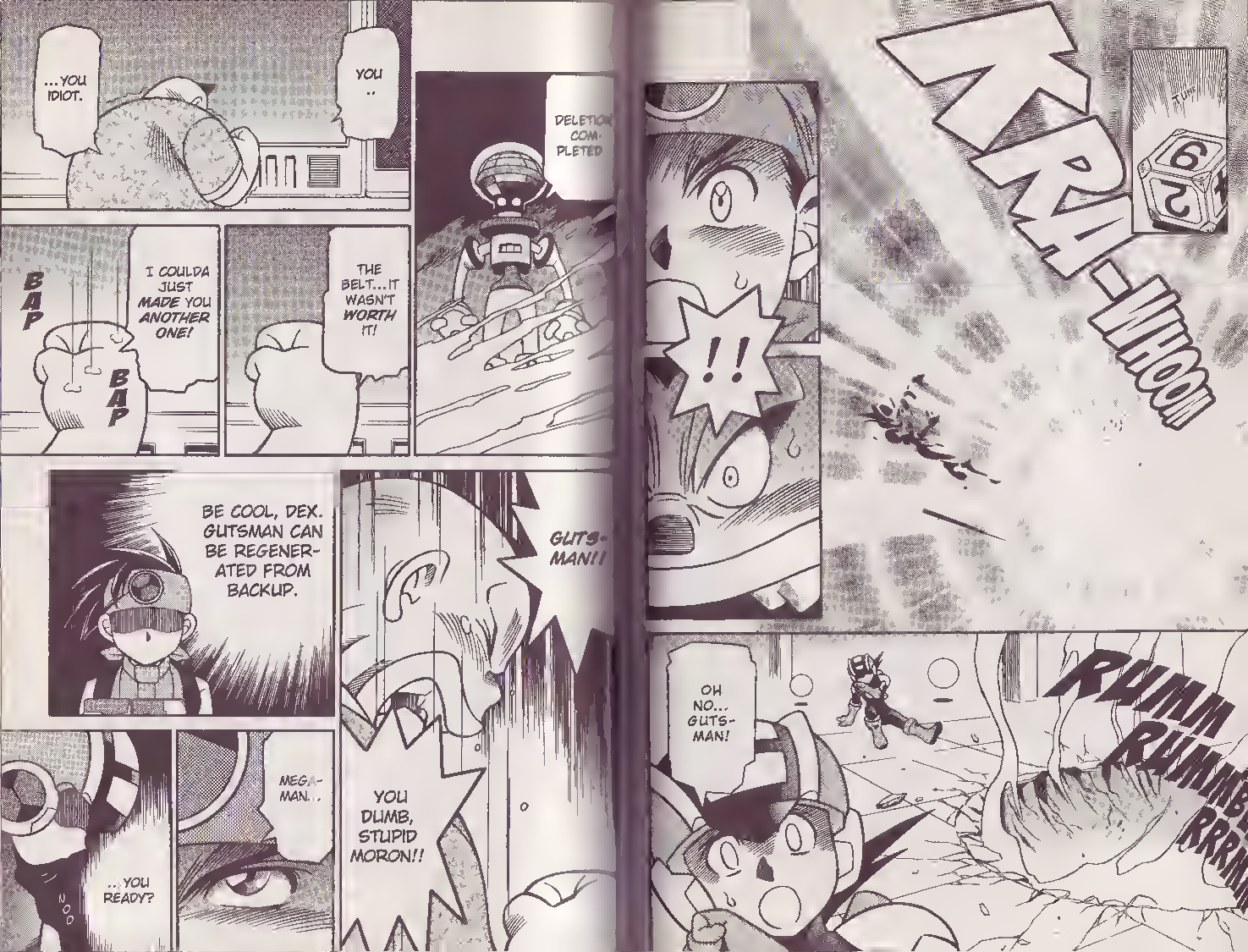
SO YOU'RE THE BOSS!!
CRUSH HIM, GUTSMAN !!!
TROMP TROMP TROM
BA-WOOSH
...FOR ONE AT YOUR LEVEL OF CAPABILITY.
AN ... LIKELY OUTCOME.
VEEW


GRUCK ...!
YOU'VE DONE WELL.
GYAAH !!
BLAM
I WILL ASSESS YOUR PERFORMANCE
CLINK CLINK
I AM NUMBERMAN.
TK TK
BATTLE POINTS: 178
SYCHRONIZATION. 41.2%
TK TK


..I DO MAKE IT LOOK GOOD!
HEH-HEH
YEAH, GUTSMAN, YOUR BELT!
THAT WAS A LOT MORE POWERFUL THAN THE FIRST ONE!!
WOT?!
ONCE WE CUSTOMIZE YOU TO THE MAX AND BEYOND ..
GUTS-MAN!
..YOU'LL BE STRONG-ER THAN ANYONE!
IT'S THE SYMBOL OF YOUR POWER!
AYE-AYE, DEX!
SO DON'T LET ANYBODY TAKE IT!
AW MAN..
!
THE NUMBER THAT COMES UP DETER-MINES ..
..THE DICEBOMB FORCE. THE HIGHER THE NUMBER, THE MORE POWER-FUL THE EXPLOSION.
...MADE THIS.. JUST FOR ...M.... ME...
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
SIR DEX ..
M...MY BELT!!

4
PUNT
HAI-YAH!!!
HAH! SAVED YER BUTT, DEX!
BA-WOOM
YOU OKAY, GUTS-MAN?
MEH.. MEGA ..MA
WHOA!
!!
CLUTTA


..CHAMPION BELT... ONLY...FOR ME..
I WON'T LET...ANY-BODY... TAKE..
ZOOM
HANG ON!!
THIS IS ILLOGICAL ACTIVITY.
GUTS-MAN!! RUUUU-UNNN!!
CLUTTA CLUTTA CLUTTA
TUNK
4

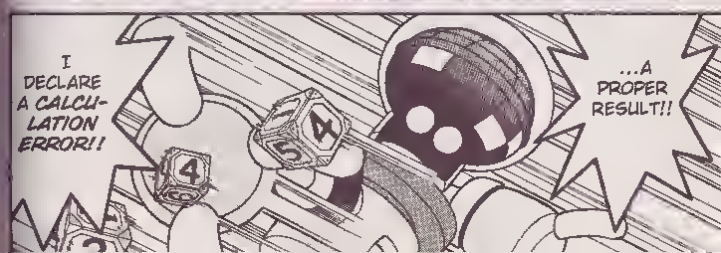

...YOU IDIOT.
YOU ..
BAP
BAP
I COULDA JUST MADE YOU ANOTHER ONE!
THE BELT...IT WASN'T WORTH IT!
DELETION COMPLETED
!!
KRI-HOOM
BE COOL, DEX. GUTSMAN CAN BE REGENERATED FROM BACKUP.
GUTS-MAN!!
YOU DUMB, STUPID MORON!!
MEGA-MAN...
...YOU READY?
OH NO... GUTS-MAN!
RUMM RUMMB RRRM

THAT ATTACK... IS NO GOOD NOW!
RRRUUUBBLE
!!
PAYBACK TIME!!
BLINK BLINK
IM. IMPOS-SIBLE!
C... COMBAT ASSESS-MENT SCAN!

LET'S DO THIS FOR THE DELETED GUTSMAN!
MEGAMAN! OPERA-TION EXECUTE!
KA-BOOM
CLUTTER CLUTTER
2
9
4
5
6

FIGHTER CYBERSWORD
B
100
FLASH
...IM... IMPOSSI-BLE..
RESUL .RESUL IS.

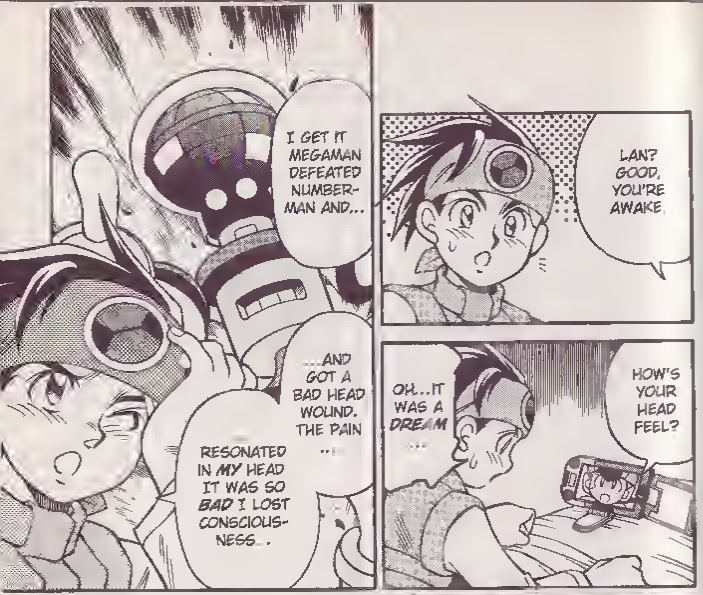
BATTLE-CHIP IN!
FIGHTER CYBER-SWORD !!!
THIS... CANNOT BE...
!!

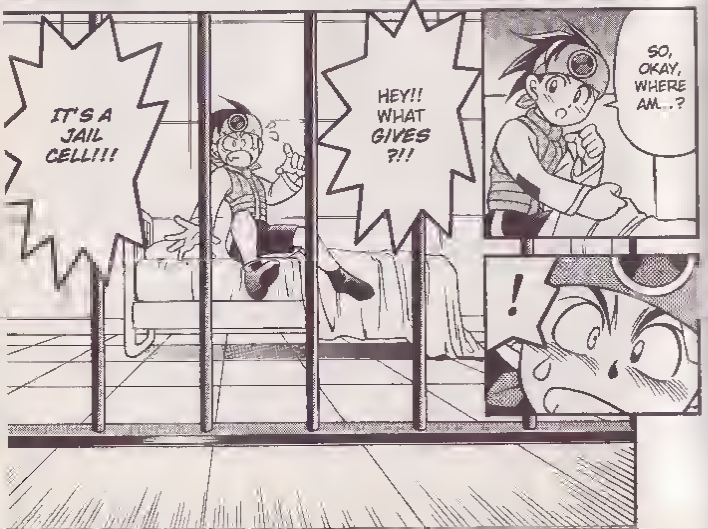

I DECLARE A CALCU-LATION ERROR!!
...A PROPER RESULT!!

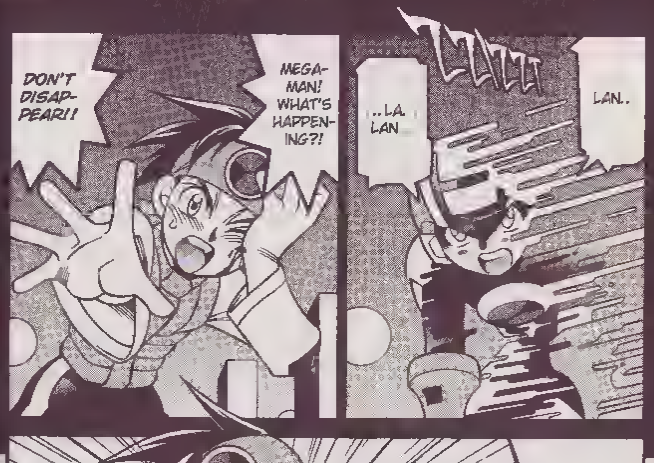
HUFF
HUFF
LAN?! OH NO...
HUFF
...SOMETHING'S WRONG!!
SHWOOK!!
THE PROGRAM STOPPED!
LAN, YOU...
?!
HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN TO A NETOP?!
HANG ON, LAN!!
THIS LOOKS WAY BAD!
HMM... APPEARS WE'VE NETTED A REAL PRIZE...

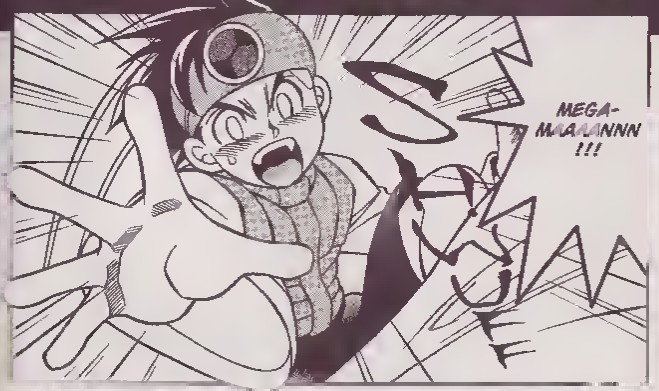
KA-BLAAAM
HUFF
HUFF
THUMP
THUP
PRETTY AMAZING!
..WERE POLICE OFFICERS..
SO THE..THE MEN AT THE SCHOOL GATES..
NETOPPED..NET-POLICE!
YOU TIDIED THIS UP BEFORE WE GOT HERE

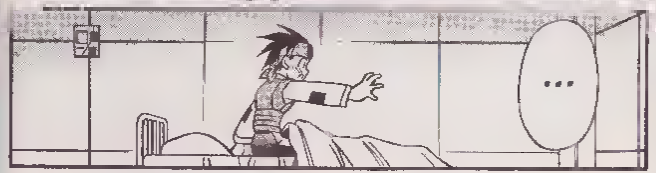
CHAPTER 5: FULLSYNCHRO UNLEASHED!!


I GET IT MEGAMAN DEFEATED NUMBER-MAN AND...
...AND GOT A BAD HEAD WOUND. THE PAIN...
RESONATED IN MY HEAD IT WAS SO BAD I LOST CONSCIOUS-NESS..
LAN? GOOD, YOU'RE AWAKE.
OH...IT WAS A DREAM...
HOW'S YOUR HEAD FEEL?


IT'S A JAIL CELL!!!
HEY!! WHAT GIVES?!!
SO, OKAY, WHERE AM..?
!

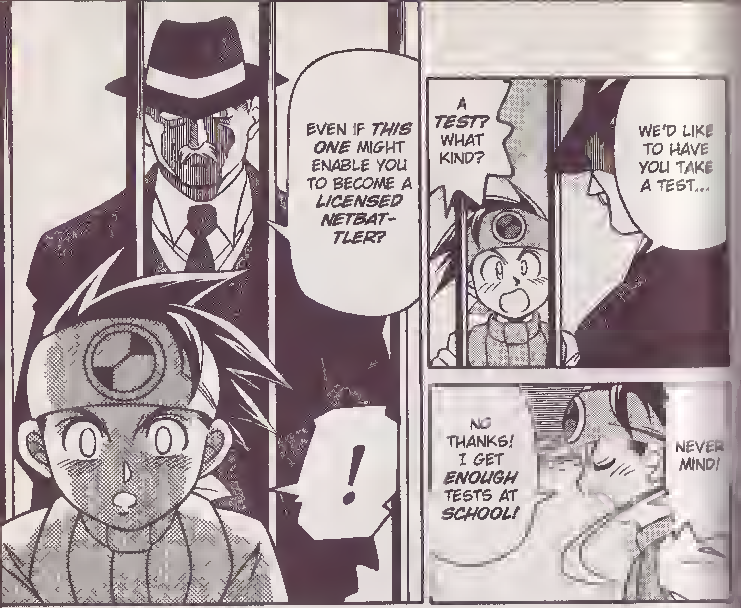

DON'T DISAP-PEAR!!
MEGA-MAN! WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING?!
..LA..LAN
LAN..

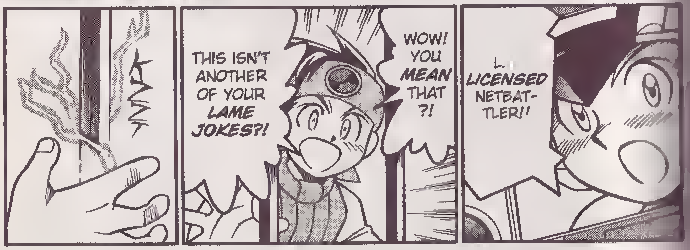

MEGA-MAAAANNN!!!

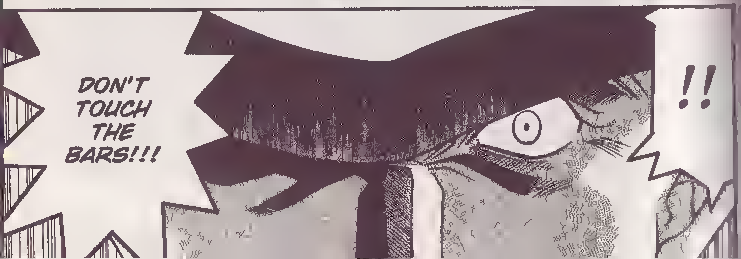

...

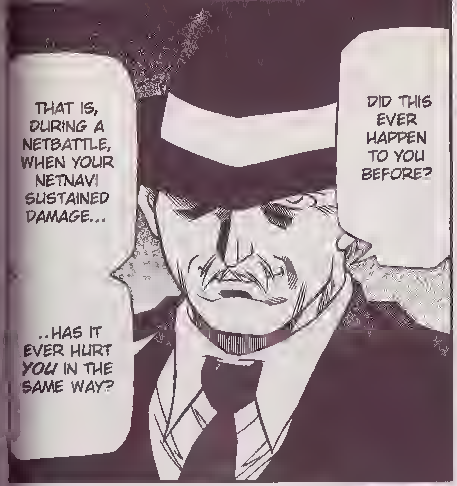
...GOT ME LOCKED UP IN THIS PLACE?!
WHY'S THE POLICE ...
INSPECTOR SLICK DADDY.
SOME CALL ME...
HEY!!
IT'S A JOKE, SON.
ENEMY ...?
YOU'RE NOT FUNNY!!
AHEM
TIDY OL' HIDEY-HOLE. ♡
THE ENEMY WOULD HAVE A HARD TIME GETTING AT YOU IN HERE
WELL, IT'S OUR TIDIEST, SAFEST CELL.

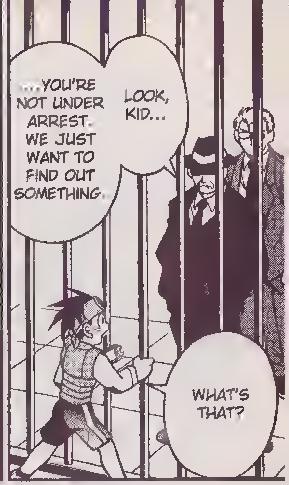
HEY! YOU, YOU'RE ..
TA-KATOM
HELLO, YOUNG FELLA.
HOW'RE YOU FEELING?
OH! YOU'RE THAT GUY!!
NO, WE MET IN FRONT OF YOUR SCHOOL!
...COMMISSIONER GORDON!!
GULP
P—POLICE?
YOU'RE IN A SPECIAL WARD AT THE POLICE HOSPITAL.
I'M INSPECTOR ODA, CYBER INVESTIGATION DIVISION
IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU, LAN HIKARI.
POLICE

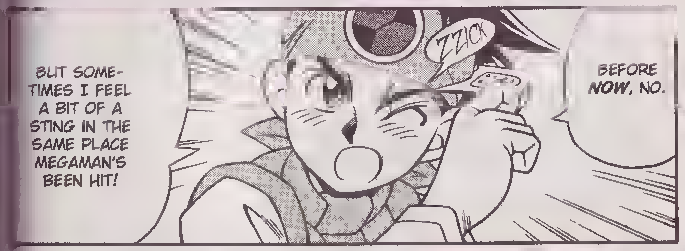

EVEN IF THIS ONE MIGHT ENABLE YOU TO BECOME A LICENSED NETBAT-TLER?
!
A TEST? WHAT KIND?
WE'D LIKE TO HAVE YOU TAKE A TEST...
NO THANKS! I GET ENOUGH TESTS AT SCHOOL!
NEVER MIND!

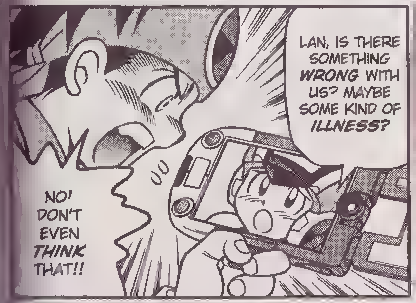

THIS ISN'T ANOTHER OF YOUR LAME JOKES?!
WOW! YOU MEAN THAT ?!
L-LICENSED NETBAT-TLER!!

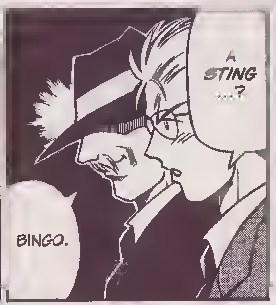

DON'T TOUCH THE BARS!!!
!!

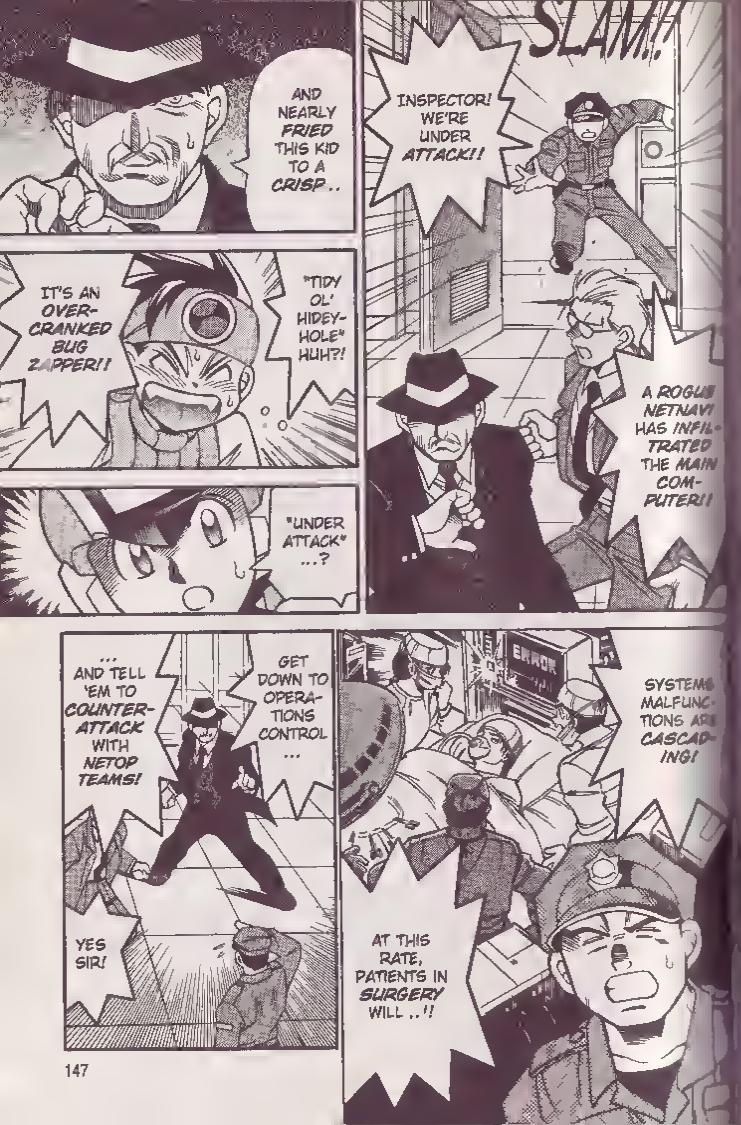

THAT IS, DURING A NETBATTLE, WHEN YOUR NETNAVI SUSTAINED DAMAGE...
..HAS IT EVER HURT YOU IN THE SAME WAY?
DID THIS EVER HAPPEN TO YOU BEFORE?


LOOK, KID...
...YOU'RE NOT UNDER ARREST. WE JUST WANT TO FIND OUT SOMETHING.
WHAT'S THAT?


BUT SOME-TIMES I FEEL A BIT OF A STING IN THE SAME PLACE MEGAMAN'S BEEN HIT!
TZZK
BEFORE NOW, NO.

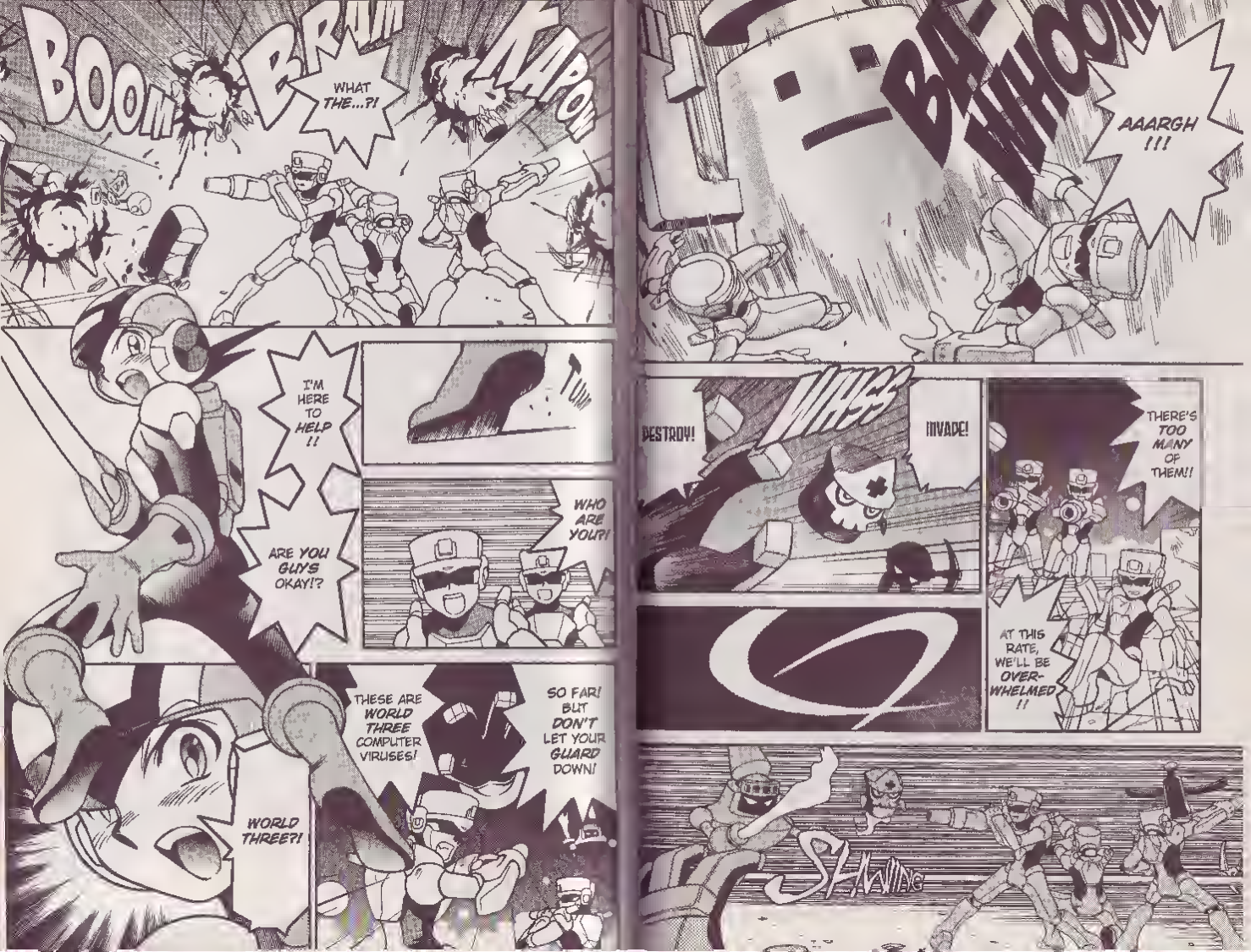

LAN, IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH US? MAYBE SOME KIND OF ILLNESS?
NO! DON'T EVEN THINK THAT!!


A STING ...?
BINGO.


AND NEARLY FRIED THIS KID TO A CRISP..
IT'S AN OVER-CRANKED BUG ZAPPER!!
"TIDY OL' HIDEY-HOLE" HUH?!
"UNDER ATTACK" ...?
SLAM!!
INSPECTOR! WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!!
A ROGUE NETNAVI HAS INFILTRATED THE MAIN COMPUTER!!
...AND TELL 'EM TO COUNTER-ATTACK WITH NETOP TEAMS!
GET DOWN TO OPERATIONS CONTROL ...
YES SIR!
ERROR
SYSTEMS MALFUNCTIONS ARE CASCADING!
AT THIS RATE, PATIENTS IN SURGERY WILL ..!!

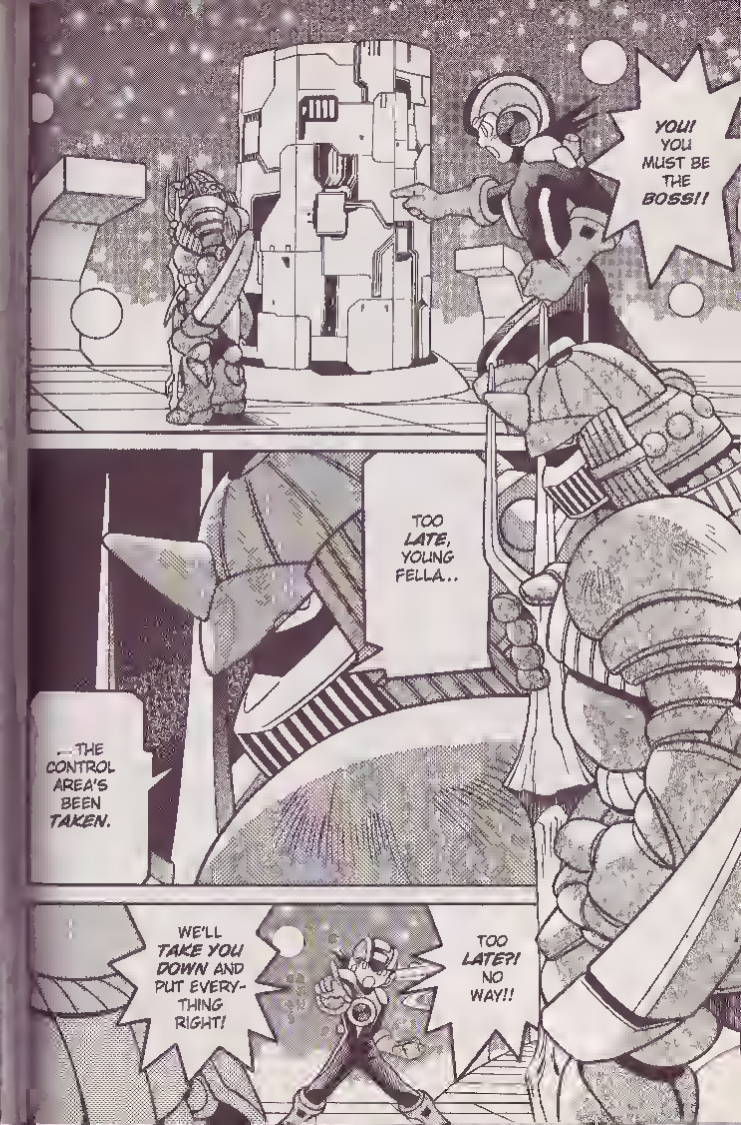
YARGH !!!
WHY ARE...?!
HIGH VOLTAGE LINES!!
REEP
RED ALERT!
REEP
RED ALERT!
REEP

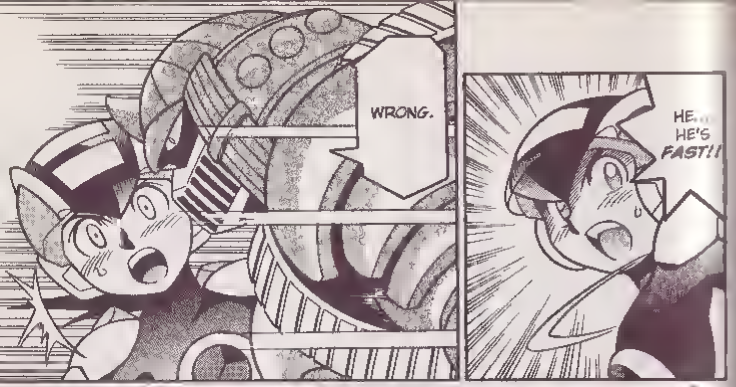
WE'RE GONNA SHOW 'EM WHAT WE'RE MADE OF!!
WE AIN'T HELPING NOBODY !!
SHEESH! NO SENSE OF CIVIC DUTY!!
THEN WE CAN HELP THE INSPEC-TOR!
HELP HIM, MEGA-MAN? HAH!!
...
DON'T YOU FUSS! JUST LEAVE IT TO US!!
GET IT?!
SIT TIGHT, KID! I'LL BE BACK!
HEY!!
YOU'RE STILL NOT FUNNY!!!
LOOK ...
...THAT INTERCOM. IF WE JACK IN THERE .
.. WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO ACCESS THE MAIN COMPUTER
LAN!
WHAT ?!
HEY LAN!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
!!
JACK IN!!
MEGAMAN!! POWER UP!!


BOOM
BRUM
TAPOW
WHAT THE...?!
I'M HERE TO HELP!!
ARE YOU GUYS OKAY!?
WHO ARE YOU?!
WORLD THREE?!
THESE ARE WORLD THREE COMPUTER VIRUSES!
SO FAR! BUT DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN!
BA-WHOOM
AAARGH!!!
DESTROY!
INVADE!
THERE'S TOO MANY OF THEM!!
AT THIS RATE, WE'LL BE OVER-WHELMED!!
SHAWING

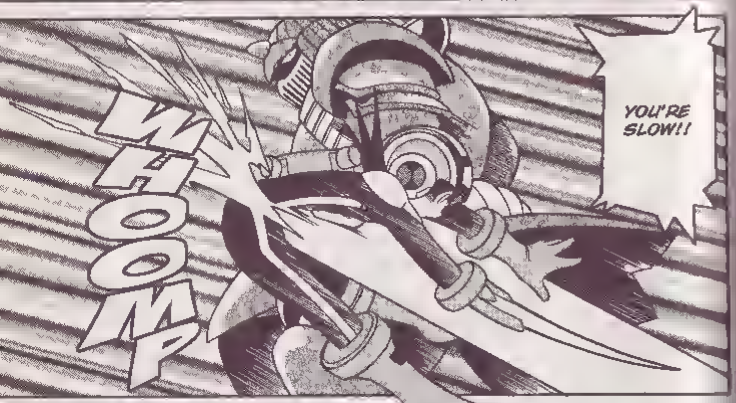
... WHERE THE ENEMY LEADER'S LURKING!!
THAT'S PROBABLY...
GOTCHA!
ZAM ZAM ZAM
WE'LL HOLD THEM HERE!
YOU GET TO THE CONTROL AREA! HURRY!
THEY'RE PRESUMED TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OVER 80 PERCENT OF THE INCIDENCES OF NET TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD!!
YEP! A CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION BENT ON TAKING OVER THE CYBERNET ...
...THAT'S WORLD THREE!!!
... PROCEEDING TO "CONTROL AREA"
MEGAMAN ...
...0!
THUMP
...3...
...2...
...1...
CONTACT WITH "ENEMY NETNAVI IN...
THIS IS IT...
TORCHMAN AND NUMBERMAN, THEY WERE ...
...AGENTS OF WORLD THREE!!
TAKING OVER THE CYBERNET?!
AND COMMITTING 80 PERCENT OF NET TERRORISM?!

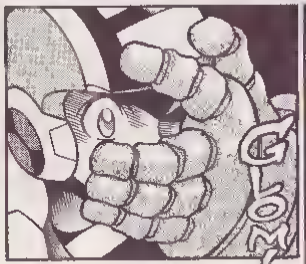
HERE I COME !!
HAH! LAUGH WHILE YOU CAN!
HEH HEH HEH ..
BIG TALK FOR A LITTLE GUY
BEGIN COMBAT CAPABILITY SCAN!
BZZ-ZICK
KRAAAAK

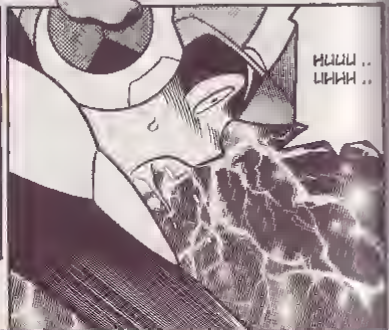

YOU! YOU MUST BE THE BOSS!!
TOO LATE, YOUNG FELLA..
...THE CONTROL AREA'S BEEN TAKEN.
WE'LL TAKE YOU DOWN AND PUT EVERYTHING RIGHT!
TOO LATE?! NO WAY!!


WRONG.

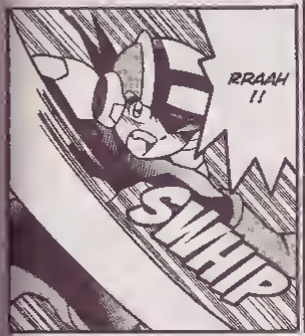
HE... HE'S FAST!!

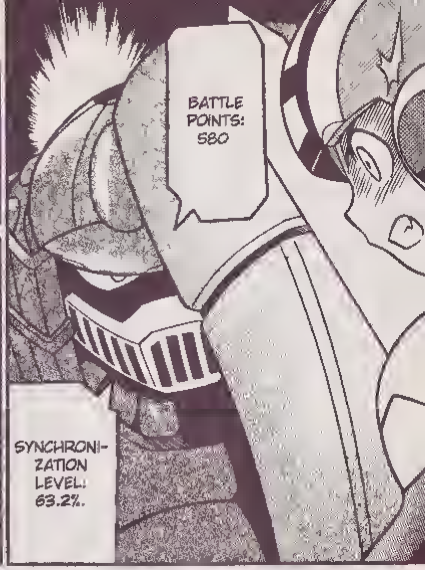

WHOOMP
YOU'RE SLOW!!

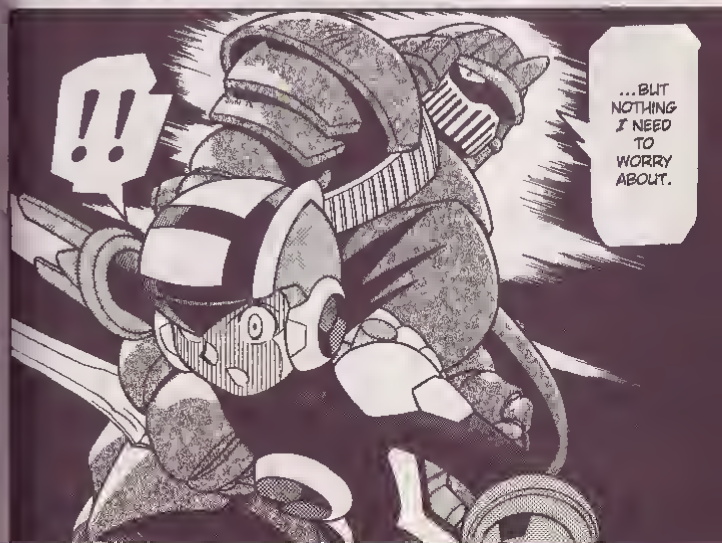

GLOM

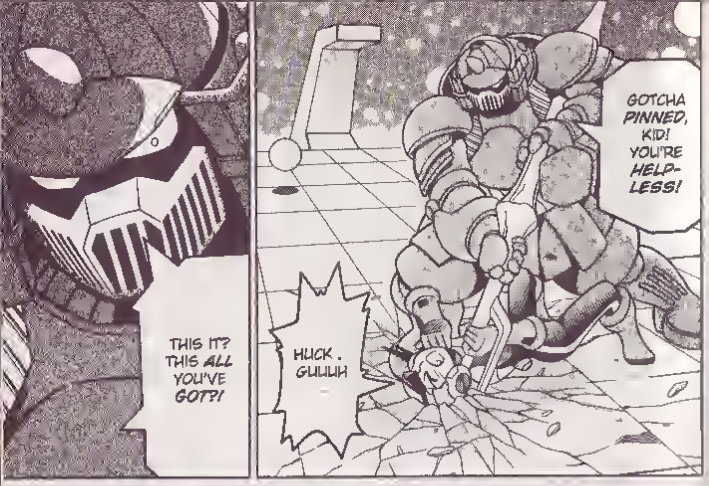

HUUU..
UHHH..

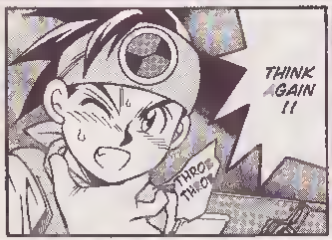
NOT A BAD SCORE..

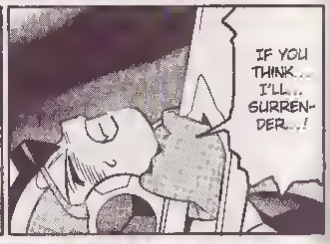

RRAAH !!
SWHIP

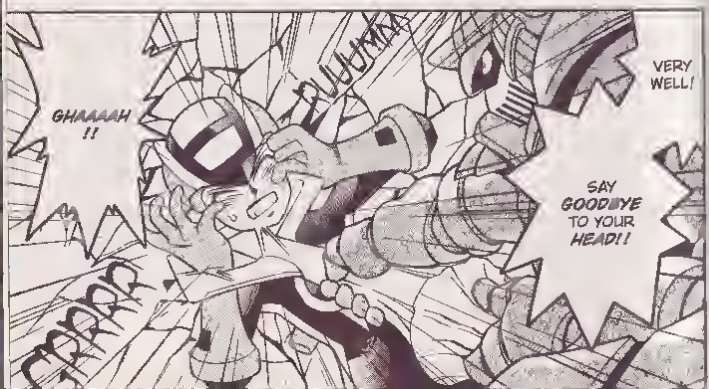

BATTLE POINTS: 580
SYNCHRONI-ZATION LEVEL: 63.2%.

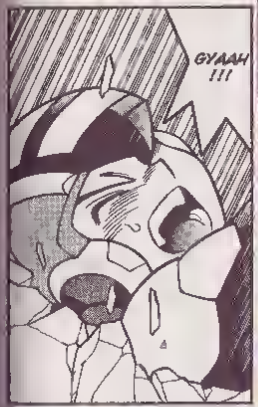

!!
...BUT NOTHING I NEED TO WORRY ABOUT.


THIS IT? THIS ALL YOU'VE GOT?!
HUCK. GULLUH
GOTCHA PINNED, KID! YOU'RE HELP-LESS!

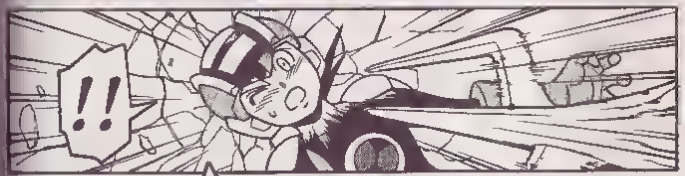

THINK AGAIN !!
THROB THROB

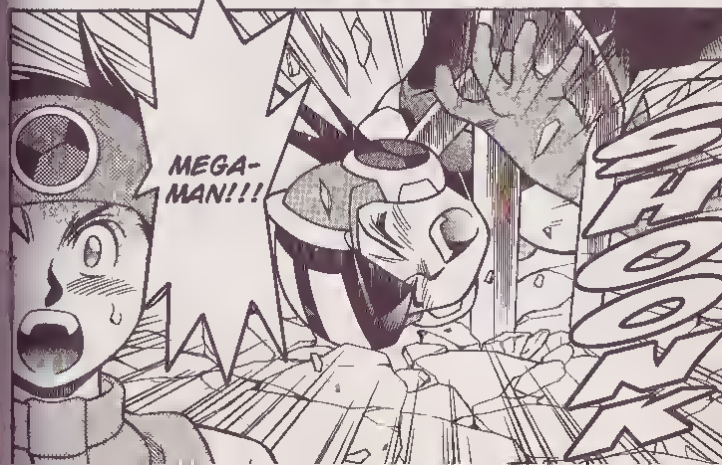

IF YOU THINK... I'LL... SURREN-DER...!

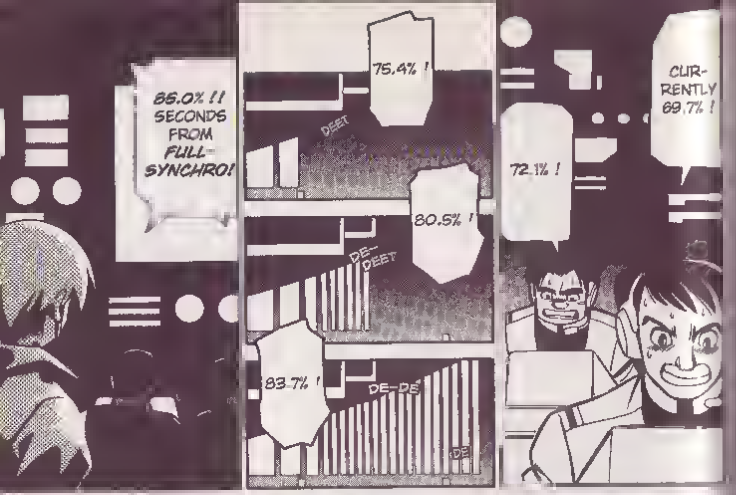

GHAAAAH !!
GRRRR
VERY WELL!
SAY GOODBYE TO YOUR HEAD!!

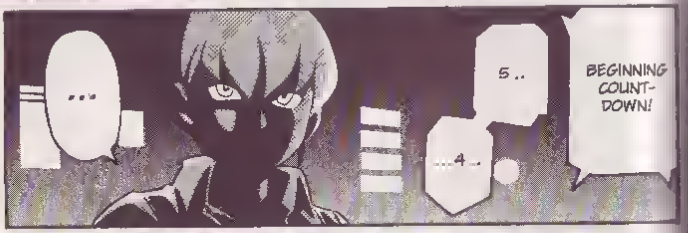

GYAAH !!!

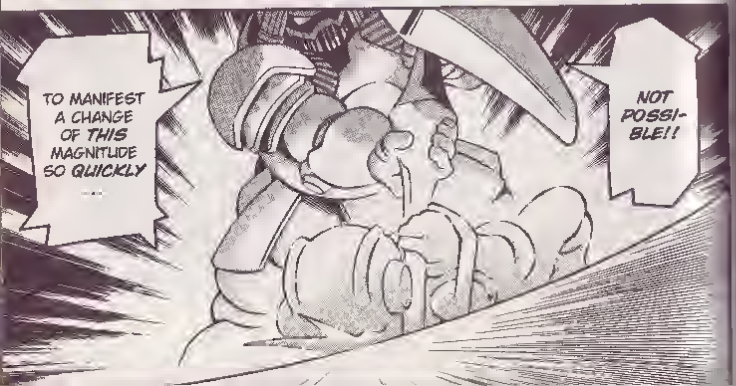
WHAM!!

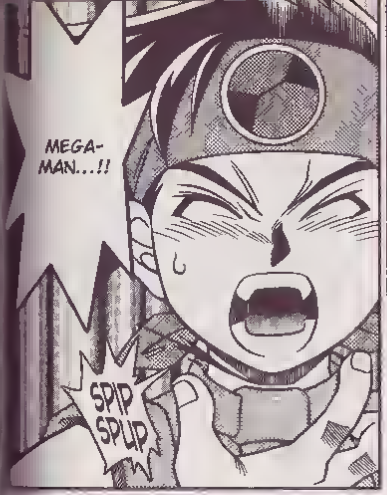

!!


MEGA-MAN!!!
HOONK

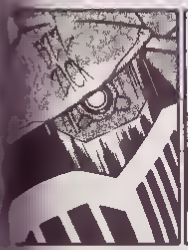

86.0%!! SECONDS FROM FULL-SYNCHRO!
75.4%!
DEET
80.5%!
DE-DEET
83.7%!
DE-DE
DE
72.1%!
CURRENTLY 69.7%!


...
5..
...4...
BEGINNING COUNT-DOWN!


TO MANIFEST A CHANGE OF THIS MAGNITUDE SO QUICKLY ...
NOT POSSI-BLE!!

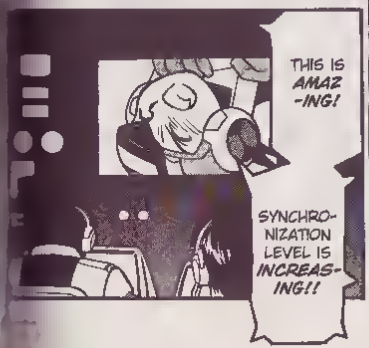

MEGA-MAN...!!
SPIP SPUP

KUH... KAAAH ...
HUCK ...

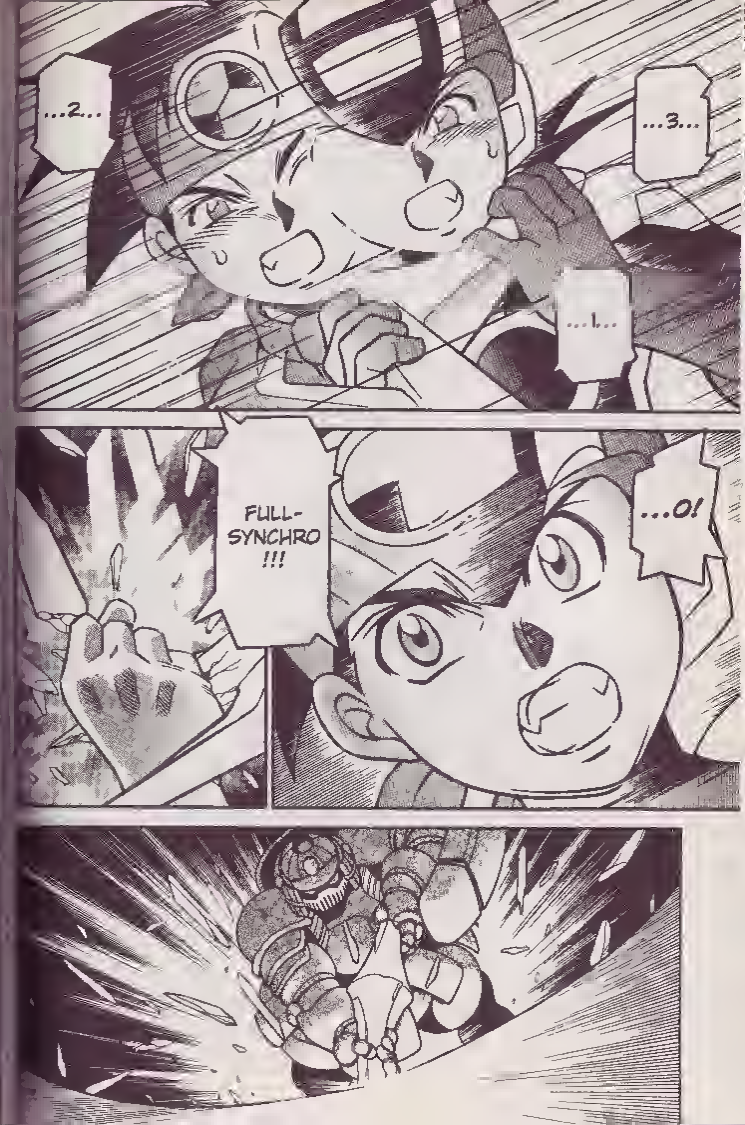


HUH!?

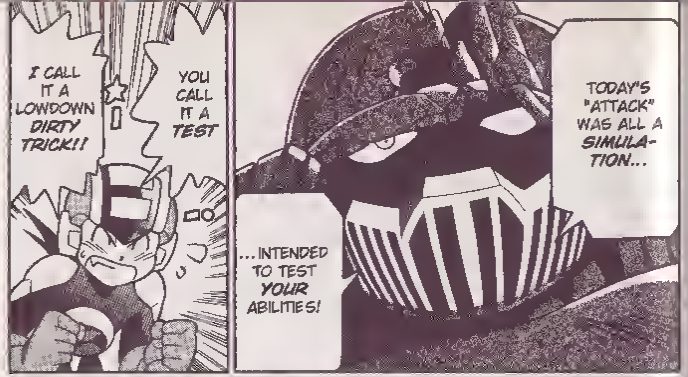
I... WON'T ...GIVE IN...
...NOT ..TO YOU!!

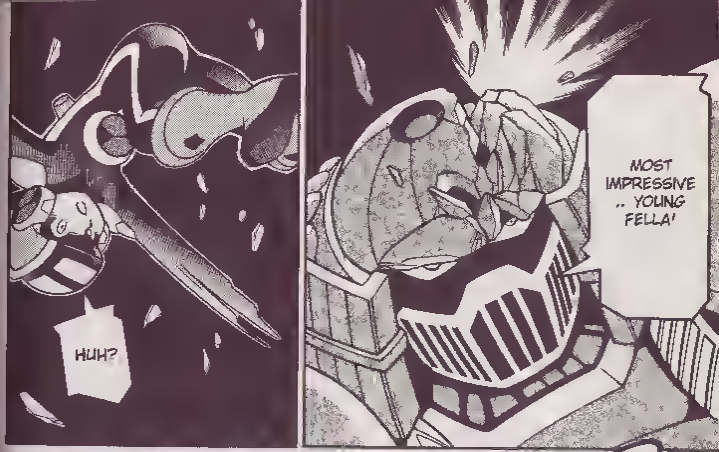

THIS IS AMAZ-ING!
SYNCHRO-NIZATION LEVEL IS INCREAS-ING!!

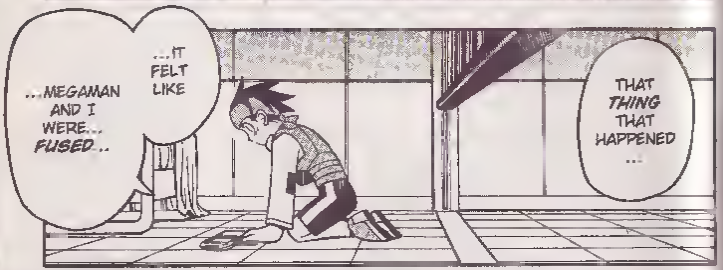
WHAT. . .?!
WHERE'D HE GO?!
WHER
KZZT
I'LL BE...
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO US?!
YOU'VE JUST REDE-FINED WHAT'S POSSI-BLE!!!
FROOOSH

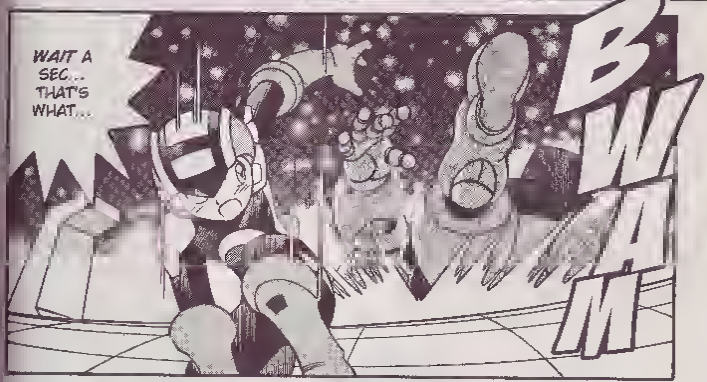

...2...
...3...
...1...
FULL-SYNCHRO !!!
...0!

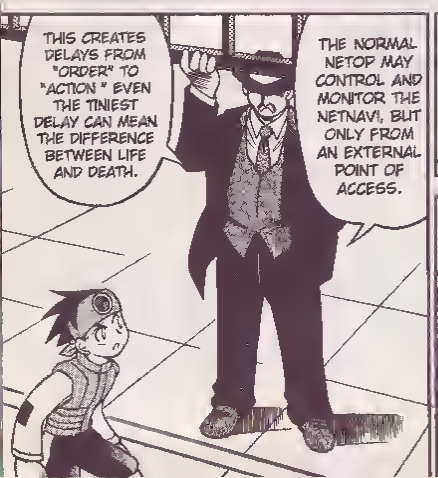
NOTHING SIMPLE ABOUT THIS!!!
IT'S A TRICYBER-SWORD !!!!
CYBERSWORD
CYBERSWORD
CYBERSWORD
..BUT NOW I CAN FOLLOW HIS ATTACK WITH EASE!!
HE'S AS FAST AS BEFORE
A SIMPLE CYBER-SWORD ...
...WON'T BE ENOUGH!
IT'S OUR TURN NOW!!
LET'S GO!

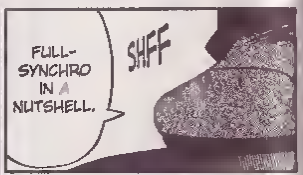

I CALL IT A LOWDOWN DIRTY TRICK!!
YOU CALL IT A TEST
TODAY'S "ATTACK" WAS ALL A SIMULATION...
...INTENDED TO TEST YOUR ABILITIES!

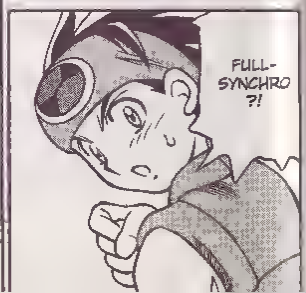

HUH?
MOST IMPRESSIVE .. YOUNG FELLA!

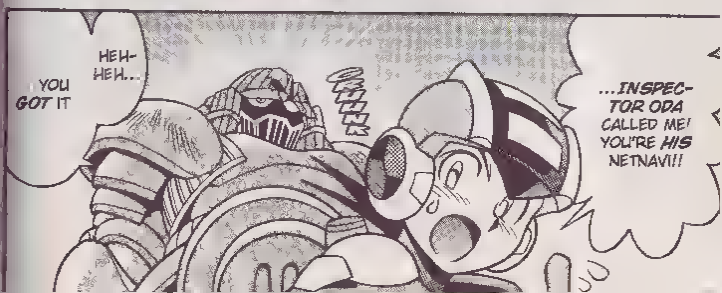

...MEGAMAN AND I WERE... FUSED..
...IT FELT LIKE
THAT THING THAT HAPPENED ...

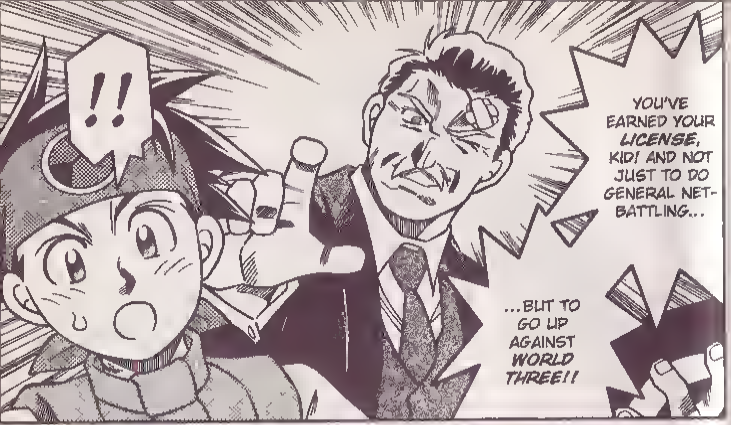

WAIT A SEC... THAT'S WHAT...
BWAM

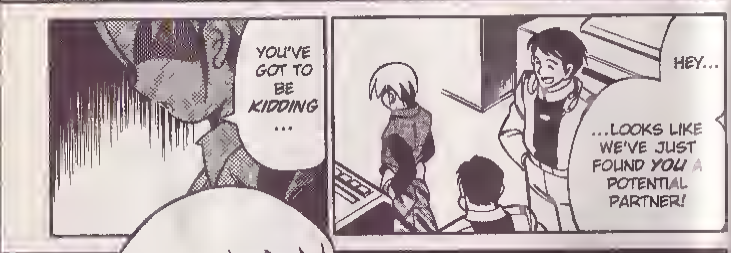

THIS CREATES DELAYS FROM "ORDER" TO "ACTION" EVEN THE TINIEST DELAY CAN MEAN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH.
THE NORMAL NETOP MAY CONTROL AND MONITOR THE NETNAVI, BUT ONLY FROM AN EXTERNAL POINT OF ACCESS.

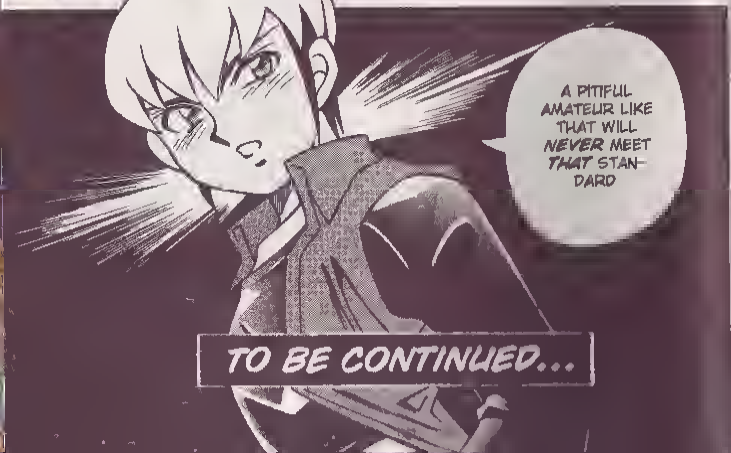

FULL-SYNCHRO IN A NUTSHELL.
SHFF

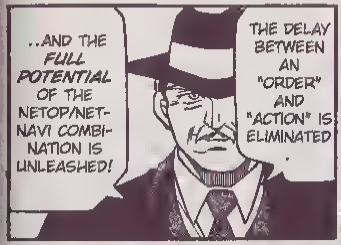

FULL-SYNCHRO ?!

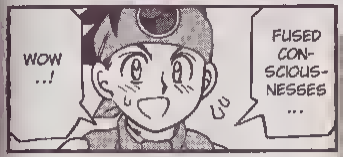

YOU GOT IT
HEH-HEH..
...INSPECTOR ODA CALLED ME! YOU'RE HIS NETNAVI!!

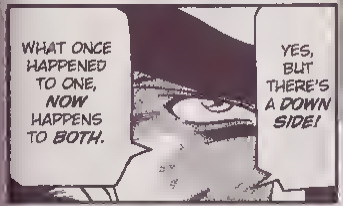

!!
YOU'VE EARNED YOUR LICENSE, KID! AND NOT JUST TO DO GENERAL NET-BATTLING...
...BUT TO GO UP AGAINST WORLD THREE!!

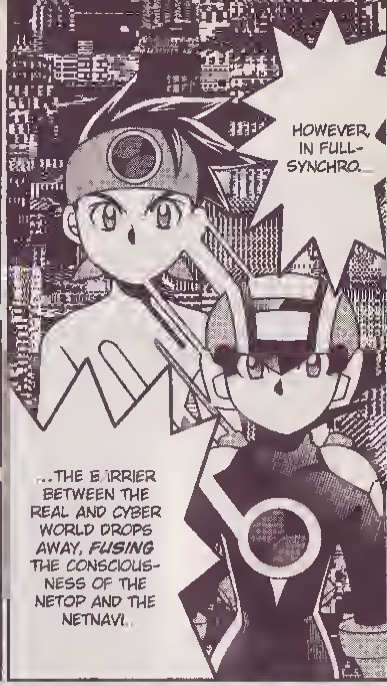

YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ...
HEY...
...LOOKS LIKE WE'VE JUST FOUND YOU A POTENTIAL PARTNER!

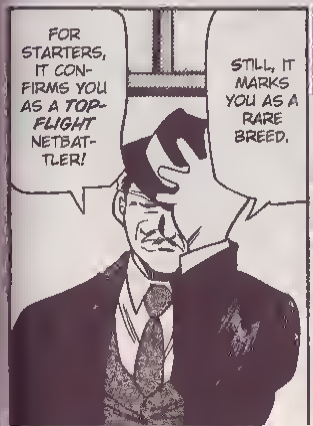

A PITIFUL AMATEUR LIKE THAT WILL NEVER MEET THAT STAN-DARD
TO BE CONTINUED...


...AND THE FULL POTENTIAL OF THE NETOP/NET-NAVI COMBI-NATION IS UNLEASHED!
THE DELAY BETWEEN AN "ORDER" AND "ACTION" IS ELIMINATED.

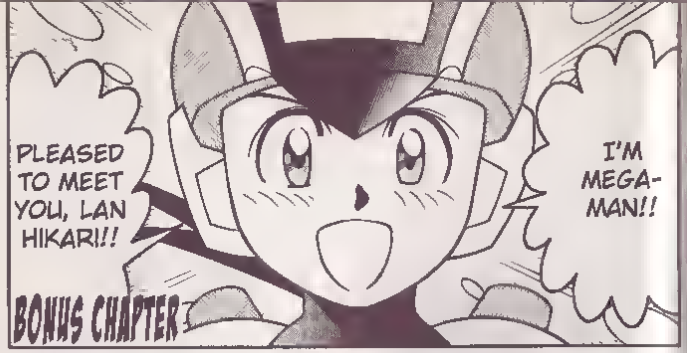

WOW ..!
FUSED CON-SCIOUS-NESSES ...


WHAT ONCE HAPPENED TO ONE, NOW HAPPENS TO BOTH.
YES, BUT THERE'S A DOWN SIDE!


HOWEVER, IN FULL-SYNCHRO...
...THE BARRIER BETWEEN THE REAL AND CYBER WORLD DROPS AWAY, FUSING THE CONSCIOUS-NESS OF THE NETOP AND THE NETNAVI.

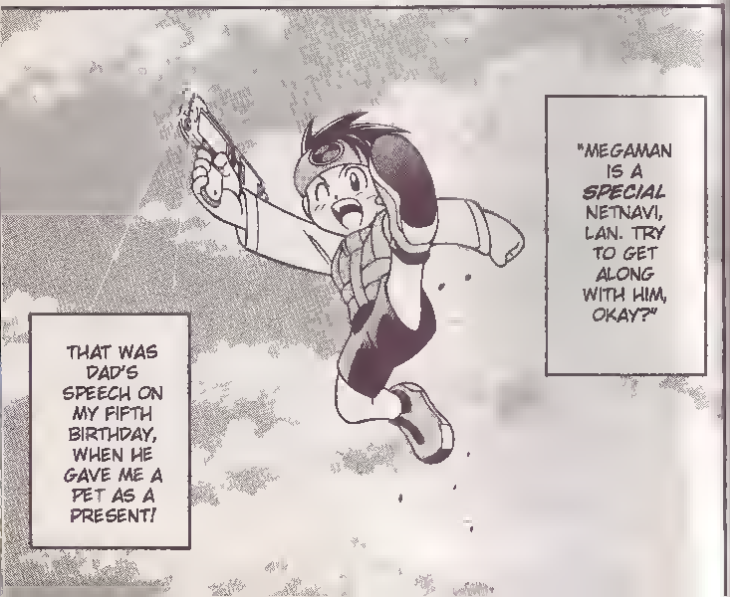

FOR STARTERS, IT CON-FIRMS YOU AS A TOP-FLIGHT NETBAT-TLER!
STILL, IT MARKS YOU AS A RARE BREED.

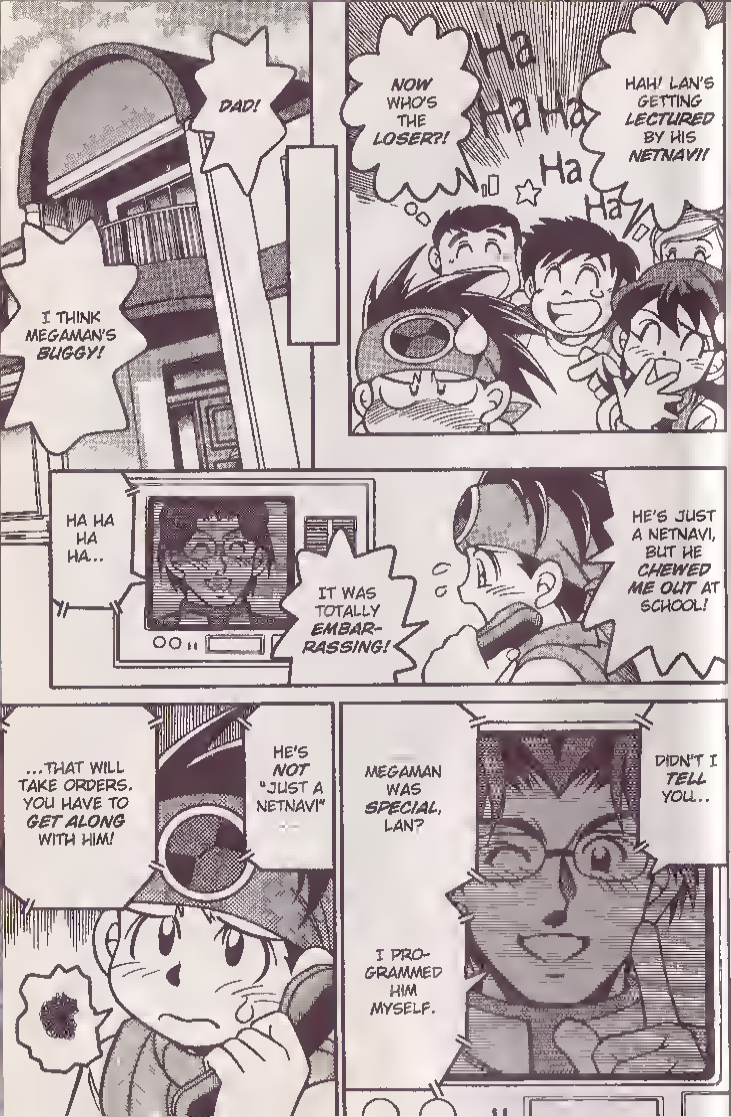
...!
HUH
FOR SUCH A DRAMATIC INCREASE IN COMBAT CAPABILI-TIES...
...A NETOP BECOMES EXPOSED TO A GREAT DEAL OF REAL DANGER.

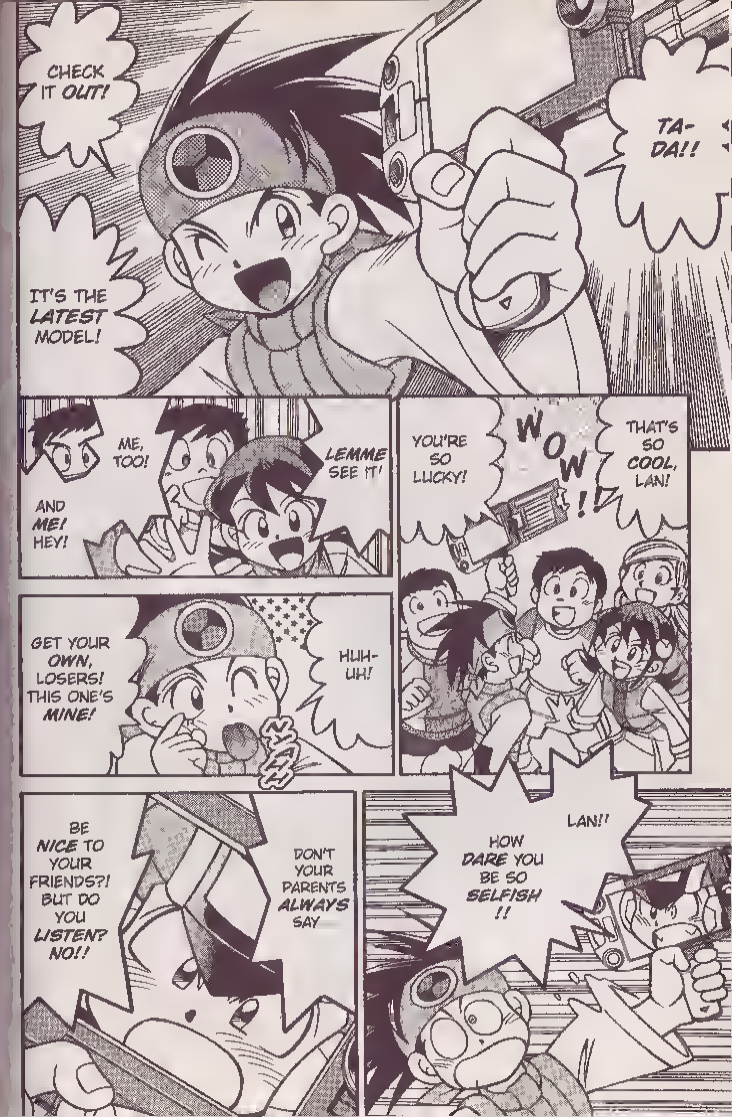


BONUS CHAPTER

LAN AND MEGAMAN FIRST IMPRESSIONS

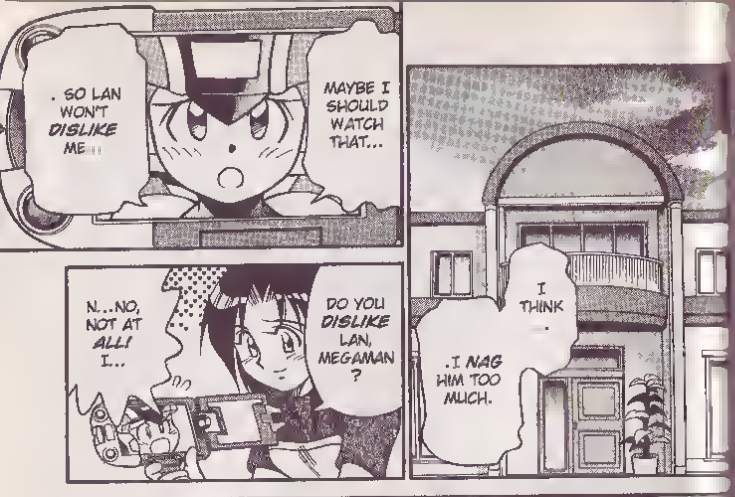

"MEGAMAN IS A *SPECIAL* NETNAVI, LAN. TRY TO GET ALONG WITH HIM, OKAY?"
THAT WAS DAD'S SPEECH ON MY FIFTH BIRTHDAY, WHEN HE GAVE ME A PET AS A PRESENT!


DAD!
I THINK MEGAMAN'S BUGGY!
NOW WHO'S THE LOSER?!
Ha Ha Ha Ha
HAH! LAN'S GETTING LECTURED BY HIS NETNAVI!
HA HA HA HA..
IT WAS TOTALLY EMBARRASSING!
HE'S JUST A NETNAVI, BUT HE CHEWED ME OUT AT SCHOOL!
...THAT WILL TAKE ORDERS. YOU HAVE TO GET ALONG WITH HIM!
HE'S NOT "JUST A NETNAVI"
MEGAMAN WAS SPECIAL, LAN?
I PROGRAMMED HIM MYSELF.
DIDN'T I TELL YOU...

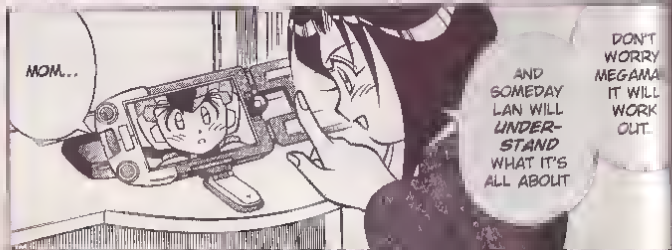

CHECK IT OUT!
TA-DA!!
IT'S THE LATEST MODEL!
ME, TOO!
LEMME SEE IT!
AND ME! HEY!
YOU'RE SO LUCKY!
WOW!
THAT'S SO COOL, LAN!
GET YOUR OWN, LOSERS! THIS ONE'S MINE!
HUH-UH!
BE NICE TO YOUR FRIENDS?! BUT DO YOU LISTEN? NO!!
DON'T YOUR PARENTS ALWAYS SAY
LAN!!
HOW DARE YOU BE SO SELFISH !!

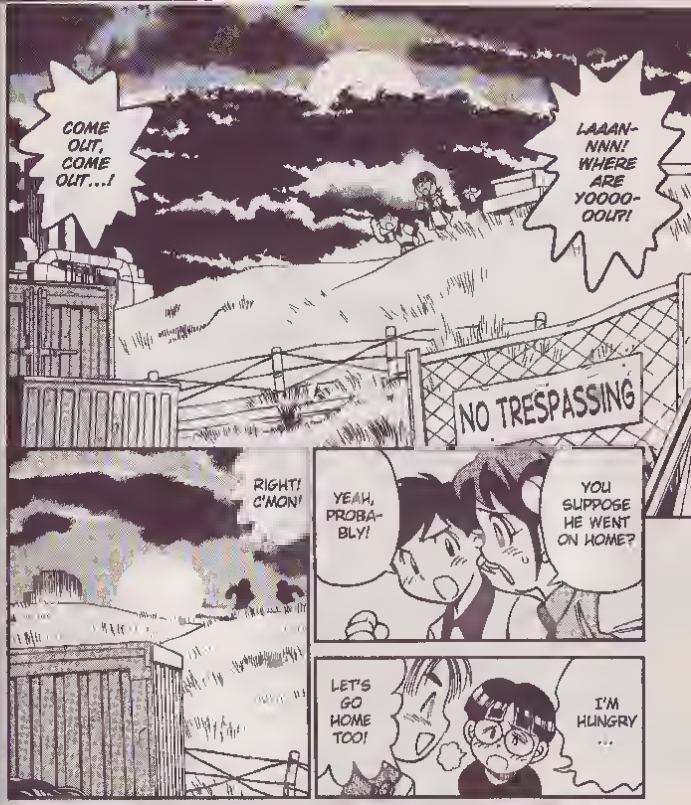
L... LAN...
THAT'S ...
...
FSSH!!
I'M SICK OF IT! WE'RE FIN-ISHED!!
IT'S SUCH A CHORE CLEANING UP AFTER HIM!
TSK...THAT BOY LEAVES SUCH A MESS.
ACTUALLY HE HASN'T PICKED ME UP ALL WEEK...
HE... LEFT ME BEHIND ...
...WHY AREN'T YOU OUT WITH LAN?
EH?
MEGA-MAN..

YOU FORGOT TO BRUSH YOUR TEETH!
DID YOU WASH YOUR HANDS?
DAD SAID HE WAS SPECIAL, BUT IT WAS HARD FOR ME TO APPRECI-ATE THAT...
...BECAUSE ALL HE SEEMED TO BE "SPECIAL" AT WAS NAGGING ME NONSTOP!
EAT WHAT'S PUT IN FRONT OF YOU!!
WAKE UP, LAZY-BONES!
YOU'RE ON ME DAY ...AFTER DAY ...AFTER DAY!!!
JUST SHUT UP, WILL YOU?!!


. SO LAN WON'T DISLIKE ME...
MAYBE I SHOULD WATCH THAT...
N...NO, NOT AT ALL! I...
DO YOU DISLIKE LAN, MEGAMAN?
I THINK.
.I NAG HIM TOO MUCH.

IF YOU REALLY WANT TO BE FRIENDS ...
...STAY FOCUSED ON THE TRUTH, FOR BOTH YOUR SAKES.
THEN DON'T THINK ABOUT SUCH THINGS.


MOM...
AND SOMEDAY LAN WILL UNDER-STAND WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT
DON'T WORRY MEGAMA IT WILL WORK OUT.

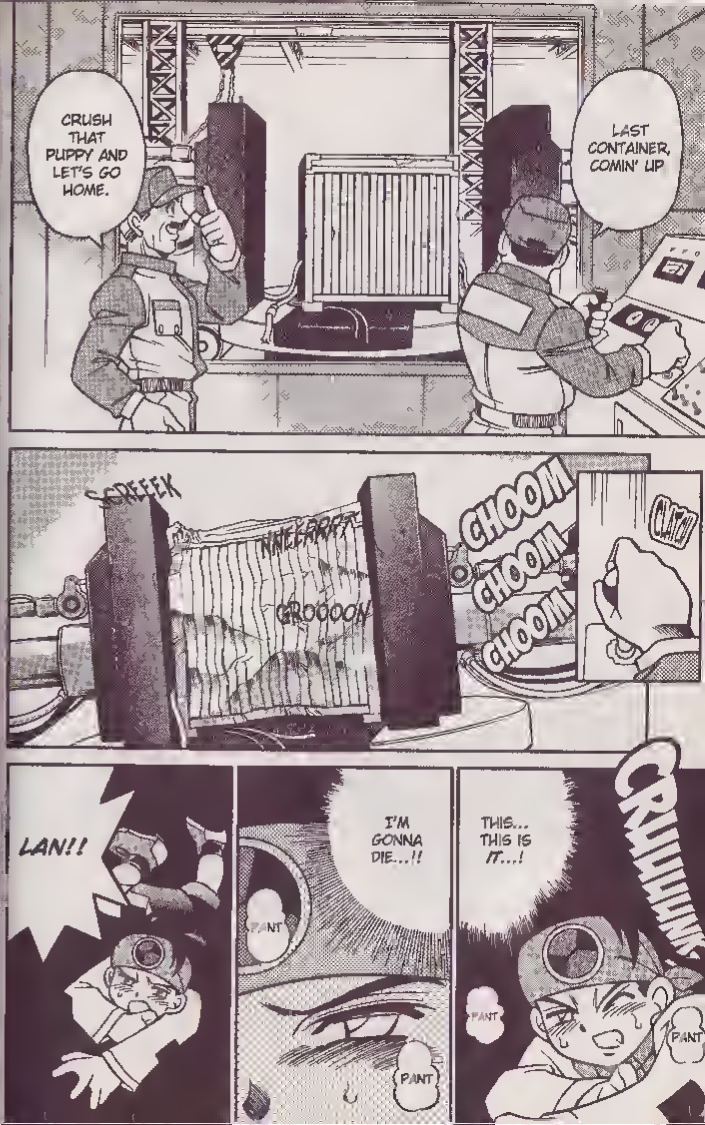

COME OUT, COME OUT...!
LAAAN-NNN! WHERE ARE YOOOO-OOU?!
NO TRESPASSING
RIGHT! C'MON!
YEAH, PROBA-BLY!
YOU SUPPOSE HE WENT ON HOME?
LET'S GO HOME TOO!
I'M HUNGRY ...

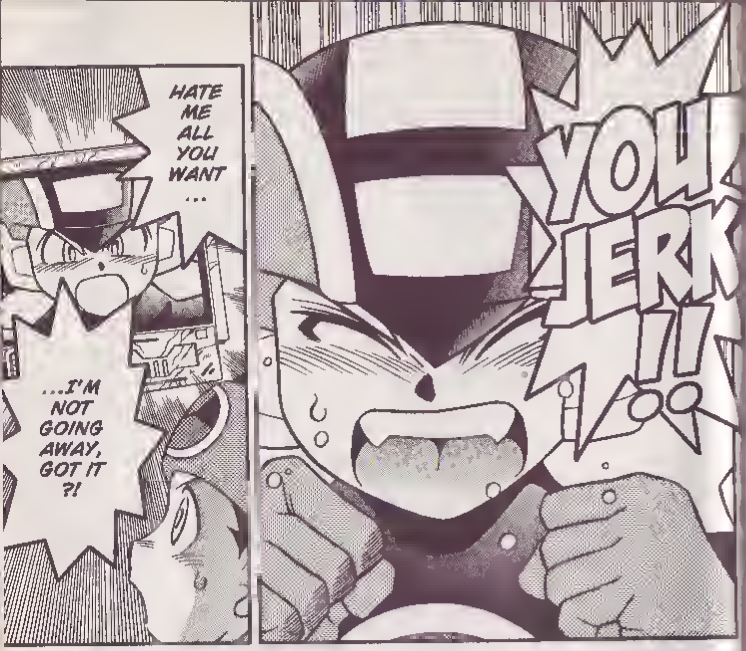
THIS THING WON'T OPEN!! I'M TRAPPED !!!
HEY!! OUT THERE!! CAN'T YOU HEAR MEEEE?!
WHAM WHAM WHAM
WHAM WHAM
WHAM WHAM

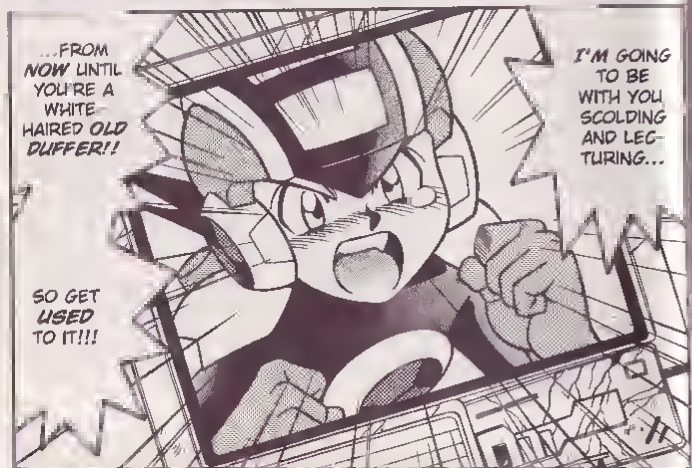
KRRUMMMBLE
AW C'MON... OPEN, WILLYA ...?
PANT
PANT
WHM
PLEASE! OPEN UP!
PANT
OPEN UP!!
PANT
PANT
WHAM
WHAM
WHAM
SLUMP
PANT
PANT
ARR ...
GETTING... HARD TO BREATHE ...AIR'S RUNNING OUT...!
PANT
PANT

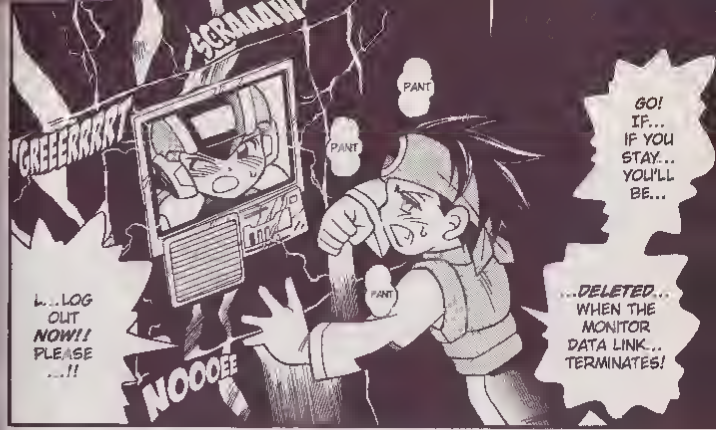
HELP MEEEE-EEEEE !!!
OKAY ...
!
MOM!!!
...BUT I THINK LAN'S IN SERIOUS TROUBLE !!!
I'M NOT SURE ...
CONNECT THE PET TO THE PC! PLEASE! HURRY!!
WHY?! WHAT'S GOING ON?!

M... MEGA-MAN!
HOW CAN YOU...BE HERE...?
BE HERE?
I'D LOOKED EVERY-WHERE!!
NEVER THOUGHT I'D FIND YOU INSIDE ONE OF THESE!!
GRRRRRR
GRUNK
I'M ON THE CON-TAINER'S MONITOR!
GET A GRIP, LAN!!
NNEERRRT
SCREEEK
GROOEEEK
YI!

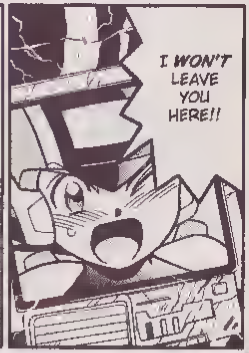

CRUSH THAT PUPPY AND LET'S GO HOME.
LAST CONTAINER, COMIN' UP
SCREEEK
NNEERRRT
GROOOON
CHOOM
CHOOM
CHOOM
CLANG
LAN!!
I'M GONNA DIE...!!
PANT
PANT
THIS... THIS IS IT...!
CRUUUNK
PANT
PANT


HATE ME ALL YOU WANT ...
...I'M NOT GOING AWAY, GOT IT ?!
YOU JERK !!


...FROM NOW UNTIL YOU'RE A WHITE-HAIRED OLD DUFFER!!
SO GET USED TO IT!!!
I'M GOING TO BE WITH YOU SCOLDING AND LECTURING...

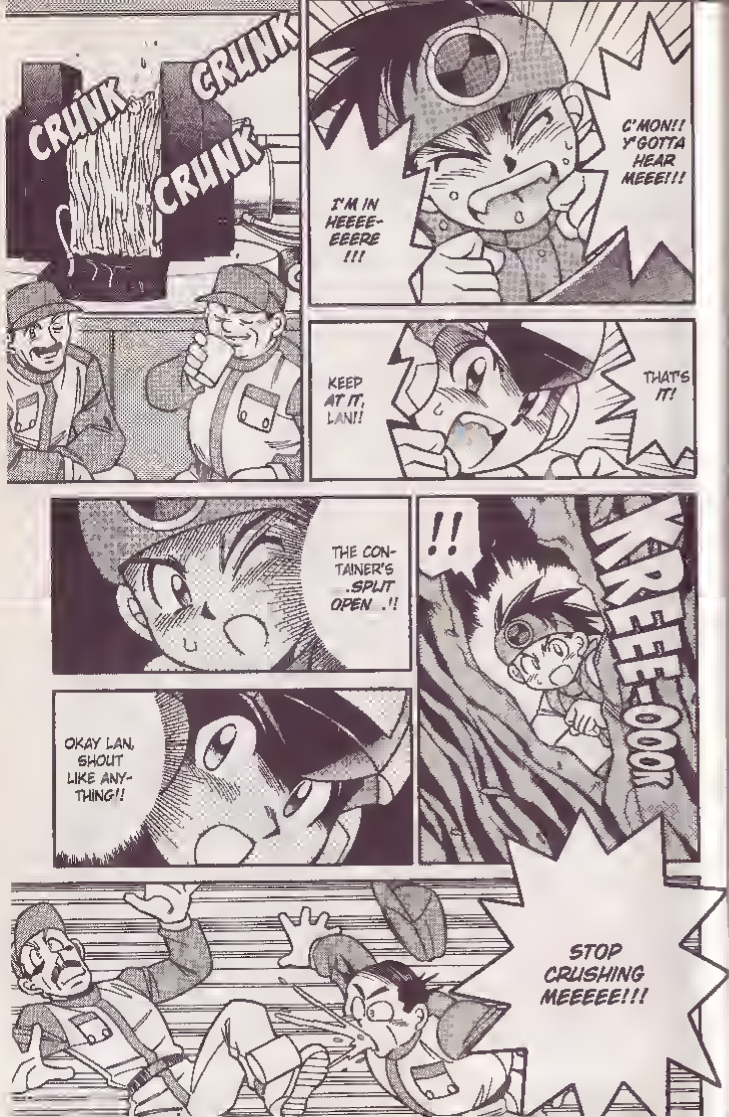

SCRAMMM
GREEERRRR!
PANT
PANT
PANT
GO! IF... IF YOU STAY... YOU'LL BE...
...DELETED... WHEN THE MONITOR DATA LINK... TERMINATES!
L...LOG OUT NOW!! PLEASE ...!!
NOOOEE

YOU THINK I... I WANNA DIE WITH YOU IN MY FACE?!
OH, LIKE... LIKE I CARE!!


I WON'T LEAVE YOU HERE!!

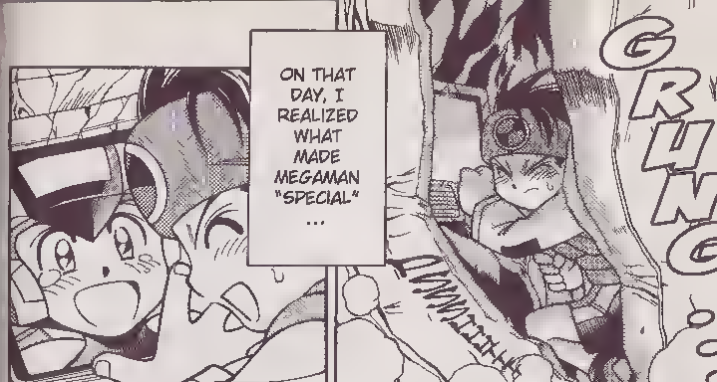
...!

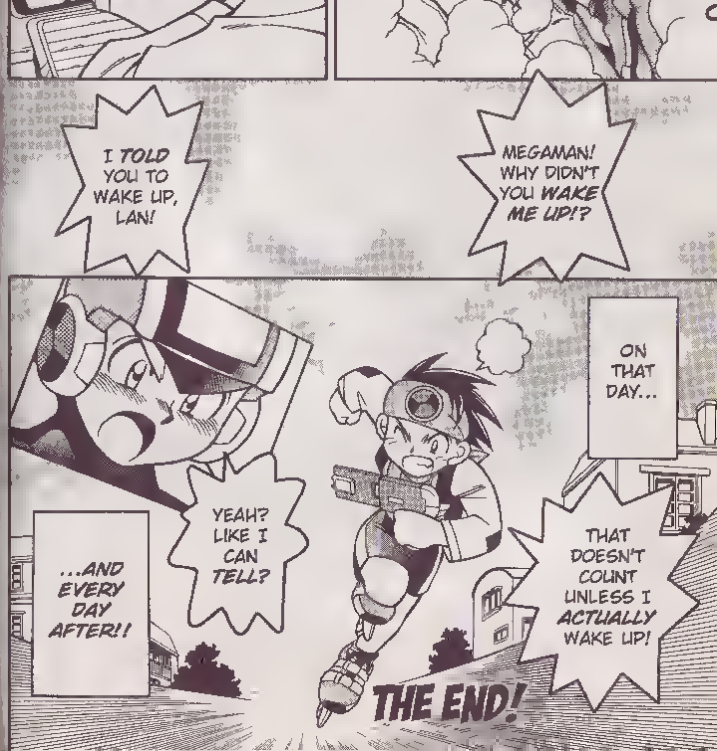
G..GET OUT OF HERE!!
GO!
ERREEE SCROOOEEK!
GOOORK!


CRUNK
CRUNK
CRUNK
I'M IN HEEEE-EEERE !!!
C'MON!! Y'GOTTA HEAR MEEE!!!
KEEP AT IT, LAN!!
THAT'S IT!
THE CONTAINER'S SPLIT OPEN..!!
!!
KREEE-OOOK
OKAY LAN, SHOUT LIKE ANYTHING!!
STOP CRUSHING MEEEEE!!!

JEEZ, MEGAMAN...
BUT IF YOU GO AWAY...
...WHAT'S THE POINT OF ME STICKING AROUND?!!
HEY!!
OUT THERE!!! HEEEELP !!!!
CREEE-GARROOON
CLENCH
CHAK

BREET
BRR
BREET
!!


ON THAT DAY, I REALIZED WHAT MADE MEGAMAN "SPECIAL" ...
GRUNG


I TOLD YOU TO WAKE UP, LAN!
MEGAMAN! WHY DIDN'T YOU WAKE ME UP!?
ON THAT DAY...
YEAH? LIKE I CAN TELL?
...AND EVERY DAY AFTER!!
THAT DOESN'T COUNT UNLESS I ACTUALLY WAKE UP!
THE END!